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CARIBALDI.

OUR general admiration for Garibaldi is so sincerely felt that it never occurs to us to consider the real and full meaning of his popularity in England. Yet in other parts of Europe there are men by no means insensible to the virtues of patriotism to whom the name of Garibaldi is far from being dear; and it is not very long since a professedly patriotic Irish rabble in London and Liverpool took up sticks and stones to demonstrate, by a series of assaults, their hatred for all who sympathised with him. The great hostility to Garibaldi proceeds, of course, from the Catholic party throughout Europe; not from Catholics generally, or he would be detested in France and in his own native land, but from those who subordinate all other political questions to the maintenance of the temporal power of the Pope. That the Germans of the Austrian empire and those Italians who are attached by their immediate personal interests to the Roman Court, or to what was the Court of Naples, should hate Garibaldi is intelligible

enough; it is also easy to understand the religious animosity with which he is regarded by the Court and clerical party in Spain; but it strikes one, at first, with amazement to find that even in Poland he is looked upon with aversion by a small and bigoted section of the community; and that the few Poles and the comparatively large number of Irish who fought for the Pope at Castel Fidardo should be able to forget all the good Garibaldi has done for Italy in the harm he meditates to the actual Government of Rome. There may be, and probably is, a clique of persons in England who, in their admiration for Garibaldi, regard him above all as one predestined to destroy Antichrist and to effect the ruin of the Scarlet Lady. This, however, is not the national view. The great body of the English people have never troubled themselves about Garibaldi's religious opinions; and even when he was marching on his unfortunate expedition against Rome did not look upon him as an awakened Catholic making war upon the head of his Church, but simply as an Italian patriot bent, at all hazards,

on completing the union of Italy. A good many foreigners are unable to understand this, for they do not understand that in England we are accustomed to separate political from religious ideas.

Thus we sympathise with Catholic Poland, and desire that the Poles may one day be successful in their endeavours to regain their independence; we helped Catholic Belgium to liberate itself from Protestant Holland; and we should condemn the conduct of Protestant Prussia in invading Denmark even if the Danes were of the same religious belief as the Poles whom Prussia has so long oppressed in the Catholic duchy of Posen.

Probably the great majority of educated men in England care very little, if at all, whether the Pope preserve his temporal power or not—that is to say, they care nothing about it as a proposition by itself, though it undoubtedly interests them as connected with the unification of Italy; and if we could conceive a Protestant



THE LANDING OF GENERAL GARIBALDI FROM THE RIBON IN THE DOCKS AT SOUTHAMPTON.

Government at Rome, with the whole of Italy opposed to it, and maintaining its power only by means of foreign bayonets, we should desire its subversion as much as we desire that of the Papal Government of the present day. Herr Bismarck von Schönhausen, with his native bayonets, is, no doubt, a fervent Protestant, since Protestantism is the religion of the Prussian State; but, for all that, we esteem him in England no more highly than Cardinal Antonelli.

If it is not as a religious character it is also not as a political one, in the restricted and party sense of the word, that Garibaldi is admired in England. The Conservatives of the Continent, who, compared with English Conservatives, are as extreme in their views as Continental Liberals are in comparison with English Liberals, dislike Garibaldi as the most popular representative of what is called the "European revolution." This expression is, by a license common enough in foreign journals, used to designate a body of revolutionists spread all over Europe, whose object is supposed to be the overturning of existing Governments—not for the sake of liberty, or even of "nationality" (a word so easy to misinterpret), but simply with a view to the establishment everywhere of democracy. If a few Poles and Hungarians assist the Italians, or a few Italians and Hungarians assist the Poles, the cry is raised that the "European revolution" is at work, and the holy principles of order and the sacred rights of property are declared to be in danger throughout the civilised world. But, considering that the despotic powers of the Continent are always ready to support one another against the rebellious subjects of either; that Russia interfered, and would interfere again to-morrow, to suppress a Hungarian insurrection; and that Prussia, Austria, and Russia are all at the present moment combined against Poland, it is for this reason difficult to understand why a similar course of action should not be pursued by those nations and fragments of nations which are suffering from despotic and foreign rule, but which, in point of fact, are always divided on some question or another, while their oppressors always act in perfect union. The reproach we should have to bring against the "European revolution" is, above all, that it is powerless. There are numberless dissensions and infinite jealousy among the revolutionists themselves. Then, neither in Italy, in Hungary, nor in Poland are the revolutionists, as represented by the "democratic party," the "extreme party," or the "party of action," at one with the aristocratic or moderate party. Finally, if the revolutionists in the three great revolutionary countries were all united among themselves, and if they included among their numbers the whole of the population, still Italy, Hungary, and Poland would not work together. There is no chance of Garibaldi, or any one else in the present day, leading the army of European liberty against that of European despotism. Were it otherwise, it might no doubt be argued that it would be far better for each nation to settle its own affairs, though this is really impossible from the European character which the despotic Governments give to the suppression of every movement on behalf of national independence. Our doctrine of "non-intervention" does not mean that we will not allow other nations to intervene in quarrels not their own, but simply that we will not interfere ourselves.

But whatever be the true character of the "European revolution," and whether political and social changes on the unsettled and suspicious basis of the "rights of man," or the conquest of national rights on no settled basis whatever beyond the expulsion of foreign rulers, be its object, it is certain that Garibaldi's name presents itself to our mind as, above all, that of an Italian patriot—a true patriot, and the most sincere, unselfish, and simple-minded of all the popular heroes who have appeared in Europe since Kosciuszko. The successful patriot who does not aspire to a dictatorship is a rarity in these revolutionary times, when even unsuccessful ones publish their proclamations and give themselves, on paper, all the airs of despotic sovereigns. It is neither as the enemy of the Pope nor as the champion of the "European revolution," but simply as the representative of liberated Italy and as a patriot without ambition, that Garibaldi must be welcomed. That is a character that the people of England know how to appreciate; and, such being the case, the question, "What shall be done to the man that the people delight to honour?" is one that almost answers itself. Garibaldi is, it is said, to be received by the trades unions; it has been proposed to offer him the freedom of the City; and he is to be entertained in London by a Duke. This, so far as it goes, is a good programme, and will at least make our illustrious visitor clearly understand that he is welcomed, not by any one class, but by the whole of our community.

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.—It seems, was still proceeding at the date of the last advices from that colony. General Cameron's forces had surrounded the natives, intending to compel their surrender by starvation.

THE COURTESIES AT THE BATTLE OF FONTEYNY.—Mr. Carlyle, in the fourth volume of his "History of Frederick the Great," has ruthlessly destroyed a very pretty romance about the battle of Fontenoy. Most people have heard that Lord Charles Hay, at the head of the English column, coming upon the French under the Marquis d'Auteroche, and stepping forward a pace or two, the Marquis, with an air of polite interrogation, not knowing what he meant, made a step or two also. "Monsieur," said Lord Charles, "bid your people fire." "No, Monsieur; after you. We never fire first." That is the French version of the story. Mr. Carlyle, however, has actually got hold of a letter of Lord Charles Hay, in which his Lordship gives his own account of the transaction. "It was our regiment," says he, "that attacked the French Guards; and when we came within twenty or thirty paces of them I advanced before our regiment; drank to them" (to the French from the pocket-pistol one carried on such occasions) "and told them that we were the English Guards, and hoped that they would stand till we came quite up to them, and not swim the Scheld as they did the Mayn at Dettingen. Upon which I immediately turned about to our own regiment, speeched them, and made them buzz. An 'Ahoi' (d'Auteroche, no doubt) "came out of the ranks, and tried to make his men buzz; however, there were not above three or four in their brigade that did." This is Lord Charles Hay's own story, and rather spoils the chivalric romance which has hitherto been associated with the affair.

THE VISIT OF GARIBALDI.

ARRIVAL AT SOUTHAMPTON ON SUNDAY.

AFTER anxiously waiting the arrival of the Ripon on Saturday, the people of Southampton and those gathered together there from the four winds were gladdened on Sunday by the advent of Garibaldi. There were deputations in the town from London, Bristol, Newcastle, and other places. There was considerable excitement. Soon after noon the Ripon was said to be approaching, and a number of gentlemen went off in a steam-tug to welcome the General. Among them were the Duke of Sutherland; Mr. Seely, M.P.; a deputation from the Italians resident in England, consisting of Mr. Negretti, Mr. Serpanza, Mr. Serena, and Mr. Vivanti; Mr. Cowan, from Newcastle, and several members of the Corporation. A short run down Southampton Water soon brought the party in sight of the Ripon, rounding the point at Hurst Castle, and as soon as she was near enough to distinguish the flag of the tug the Ripon stopped and the gentlemen at once scrambled on board.

Garibaldi was in his cabin, for which, of course, such a rush was made by all his eager well-wishers that only a few could get in, while the remainder so effectually closed the entrance that the General himself could not get out. The Duke of Sutherland and Mr. Seely, however, managed to get into the little apartment; and, after a short and hurried welcome to its famous occupant, the General came out to receive the congratulations of his other friends in the saloon. He wore light and thin trousers, smartly made patent-leather boots, a silver-grey gaberdine with a scarlet lining or hood, and an embroidered smoking-cap, which looked as if it had been worked by some fair admirer. A black silk handkerchief round the neck—of course no collar—and a light crimson bandana thrown loosely over the shoulders, completed a costume which, for picturesqueness, it would be difficult to equal. The General is about 5 ft. 8 in. in height; his well-set frame and rather broad shoulders give him an appearance of great natural robustness and activity, from which even his lameness could not much detract. His features, when not in conversation with friends, have rather a sad aspect; but nothing can exceed the animation of their expression when speaking (especially in Italian), and there is a winning appearance of good-humour about his eyes which is not easy to be described, but which those who see it can never forget. For the rest, his portraits are like him in all but this expression, and in the fact that the photographs convey the idea of his being an older and much taller man than he really is. At once, when he came into the saloon, he welcomed his friends with the most hearty cordiality, yet with a dignity that was striking when the peculiar simplicity of his manner was remembered. With him was his son, Menotti Garibaldi, who was wounded with his father at Aspromonte, but who has entirely recovered the effects of his injury, though Garibaldi still suffers, and, from the stiffness of the tendons of the ankle, is likely to feel his hurt for some time. Accompanying Garibaldi on board the Ripon were Signors Bosco and Lugeso, his secretaries; Colonel Chambers, and an Italian surgeon.

The efforts of persons anxious to induce Garibaldi to honour them with a first visit, instead of going either to the Mayor or Mr. Seely, became almost at once a subject of discussion, or, to use the very mildest term, of arrangement. It then transpired that so anxious were the persons who had favoured the idea of General Garibaldi's visiting a Mr. Richardson, instead of the Mayor of Southampton, that on Saturday night they had hired a steamer, intercepted the Ripon at some distance from the land, and given an invitation to General Garibaldi to stay with Mr. Richardson—an invitation which Garibaldi, on the advice of Colonel Chambers, who entirely supported the views of what may be called the party of Mr. Richardson, was induced to accept. Thus, therefore, before Garibaldi landed he found that two most distinct and divided parties were anxious for the honour of entertaining him, and that he was pledged to one, while he saw at a glance that propriety would lead him in courtesy to accept that offered by Southampton in the person of the Mayor. It was a long time uncertain which would be finally accepted, and decisions were come to and altered every minute; but at last, on the urgent request and explanation of Mr. Seely, Garibaldi decided in favour of going to the Mayor's, amid loud applause.

The Ripon was now close to the docks, the population of Southampton was spread along its quays, and the population of the river swarmed on shipboard, to catch a sight of Garibaldi. When he was seen, cheers rent the air; but from the deck he was not visible to all, and a cry was raised for him to mount the paddlebox. He is still lame, and walks with a stick; but this circumstance presented no obstacle to his kindly acquiescence in the demand. The only cause of hesitation was the hero's instinctive sense of discipline and order; for it was remarked that he would not step upon the paddlebox till he had obtained permission from the commander, Captain Rogers. The shouts volleyed forth again and again as Garibaldi stood bowing, or rather extending his hand, with a peculiar action towards his admirers. There were more friends of his who had not gone on board until now, and who met him on the elevated position he had taken up. Mrs. Chambers, the wife of Colonel Chambers, was the foremost of these. The Mayor of Southampton was then presented, and, in a few happily-chosen words, invited General Garibaldi to become his guest, in the name of the town and Corporation. The reply was, "Mayor, I thank you, and I accept your invitation." The General then left the Ripon, and proceeded in an open carriage through the town to the Mayor's residence at East Park. Everywhere he was received in the streets with the most hearty enthusiasm, and, notwithstanding it was Sunday, flags were hoisted in all directions. Before leaving the Ripon, Garibaldi gave to Mr. Negretti, a countryman of his, and an old friend, a small scrap of paper, on which he wrote with a pencil:—

"Dear Friends—I do not desire any political demonstration; above all, not to excite any agitation."

PUBLIC RECEPTION ON MONDAY.

On Monday Garibaldi was publicly received by the people and Corporation of Southampton, and presented with an address of affectionate congratulation on his arrival in this country, in the ancient Townhall, which forms the upper story of the well known Bargate of Southampton. Everything passed off most satisfactorily and with the utmost enthusiasm, the reception accorded to the Italian patriot wherever he appeared being most hearty and thoroughly earnest. A great deal of this feeling of triumphant satisfaction and joyousness was, no doubt, due to the fact that the little intrigues which had been set on foot to prevent the General's acceptance of the invitation of the town offered in the person of the Mayor, had entirely fallen to the ground. No pains had been spared to get Garibaldi to refuse the hospitalities of the Mayor and accept the invitation offered by Mr. Richardson, who, however, it is necessary to state, is in no way related to or connected with the gentleman of the same name in the Common Council of London, who has given notice of a motion in that court for presenting the freedom of the City to Garibaldi. At one time it seemed as if Garibaldi's want of knowledge of the English etiquette on these occasions, coupled with the injudicious advice of those who seemed personally interested in getting him from the Mayor's house, would succeed in putting this slight upon the people of Southampton. There is no doubt that, had a different decision been come to, the people of this town would have felt the refusal as a deep slight, and very justly so. On Sunday afternoon, therefore, great was the relief felt by the townspeople when they escorted Garibaldi to the Mayor's house in East Gate Park, where the most splendid preparations had been made for the reception of the General and all his suite and friends. But few of the latter remained long after his arrival, for Garibaldi's simple habits lead him to retire to rest soon after sunset, and rise with the earliest dawn. On Monday, long before the inhabitants of the town had thought of moving, the General was out in a carriage, and, in plain clothes, and all unobserved—for there was hardly anybody in the streets—made several private visits to the friends who had welcomed him the previous evening. He returned to the Mayor's house before nine o'clock, and soon after ten the members of the Corporation, in the carriages which were to form part of the little procession, began to arrive. There was a great crowd round the Mayor's house, who made

the air echo with their cheers whenever Garibaldi was seen at any of the windows, and there was a perfect tumult of enthusiasm when he at last emerged at eleven o'clock, and stepped into an open carriage and four, accompanied by the Mayor, Mr. Brinton, and his son, Ricciotti Garibaldi. The other members of the Corporation followed in their carriages, the whole cortège being preceded by the band of the 1st Hants Engineers playing the Garibaldi Hymn. The windows all along the route to the old Bargate Townhall were thronged; people were even on the rooftops, while, of course, the footways were densely crowded, and from all alike came one continuous cheer, which quite drowned the music of the band, and all the housefronts seemed rippled over with the flutter of waving handkerchiefs. Garibaldi, who now wore the uniform of the Italian Legion, which he raised and commanded in Monte Video, seemed quite moved at the warmth of his welcome, and must have been thoroughly tired by the courteous efforts which he made to acknowledge the salutations he received on all sides. The old Townhall was thronged in every part, and was made to hold on this occasion about double the number it was built to accommodate. Garibaldi's reception here was almost overwhelming, as, leaning on his stick, he limped slowly along the narrow way kept clear for him to his seat on the right of the Mayor at the head of the hall. When the enthusiasm had in some degree subsided, after repeated outbreaks, Mr. Brinton, the Mayor, addressed the General in appropriate and well-chosen words, giving him a cordial welcome to England, and expressing the satisfaction felt by himself and the other inhabitants of the town in having had an opportunity of expressing their admiration of the character and career of their distinguished visitor. An address was then read by Mr. Deacon, the Town Clerk; after which General Garibaldi bent forward, and remained for some minutes bowing, in answer to the tumultuous applause with which he was greeted. He at last spoke a few words with evident deep feeling, but with so strong a foreign accent and symptoms of effort to overcome the difficulties of pronunciation that his delivery was remarkably slow, though at all times clear and distinct. He said,

It is not the first time that I have received proof of the sympathy of the English nation, and I have received those proofs not only in words but deeds. I have seen that sympathy shown to me in many circumstances of my life, and very particularly in '60, when, without the help of the English nation, it would have been impossible to complete the deeds we did in Southern Italy. The English people provided for us in men, and in arms, and in money—they help all the needs and wants of the human family in their work for freedom. What they did and what they talked of us is worthy the eternal gratitude of the Italian people. To answer some of the words, noble and generous, of the Mayor, I will say to you that I did not sacrifice any part of my life; but I think I did something, and a very few part it was of my duty, and (placing his hand on his heart) of the duty of every man. I finish by giving my thanks to you for your generous sympathy and for your very kind and good welcome to me here to-day.

It is almost impossible to describe the enthusiasm with which these few remarks were greeted, though, unfortunately, the shout of applause led so many to attempt to force their way into the hall (which was crowded literally to suffocation) that considerable confusion ensued.

The proceedings terminated amid cheers for Garibaldi's son, cheers for him in Italy, for the late Mayor and the present, for Mr. Seely, and, in short, for all in any way connected with the reception or entertainment of the General. As Garibaldi left the hall there was a rush made to shake hands with him on the part of the visitors, which he at once goodhumouredly responded to by stretching out his hand, and then at once there were so many claimants for this honour that his further progress was completely barred. It was some time before this rather tumultuous ceremony was over, and at one time it almost seemed as if the General's hand would be shaken off before it was half through. At last the party descended and re-entered their carriages and proceeded to the pier, where the Sapphire was waiting to convey the party across to Cowes. Immense crowds thronged all parts of the pier and its approaches, and Garibaldi went on board the little vessel with Mr. Seely amid such demonstrations of affection and respect as are seldom seen even in England. A salute of fifteen guns was fired from the platform battery as the Sapphire moved down the Solent, but it is not too much to say that even this noise was almost drowned by the deafening cheers, which continued as long as Garibaldi could be distinguished standing at the stern of the vessel and waving his cap in reply.

THE GENERAL IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

General Garibaldi's progress from Cowes to Brooke House was almost devoid of incident. To the great disappointment of the islanders, Mr. Seely had arranged that the route should be along private roads, so that the villages were avoided. Notwithstanding this arrangement, however, many of the labourers found an opportunity of seeing and cheering the General, a salutation which he most courteously acknowledged. On Tuesday there was a steady downpour of rain. The Poet Laureate and Mrs. Tennyson arrived at Brooke House in the morning; Garibaldi's sons sought relief from the dismal weather in a visit to Southampton, but there they found the rain if anything heavier than at Brooke.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GENERAL'S RECEPTION IN LONDON.

Garibaldi will arrive in London on Monday next, that day having been fixed upon as more convenient than Saturday, which had been previously proposed.

The following is the official programme of the proceedings adopted by the City and Working Men's United Sub-committees on Wednesday evening:—General Garibaldi, who will arrive at the Nine Elms station of the South-Western Railway at half-past two o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, April 11, will be there received by the City, Italian, and Working Men's Committees, and conducted to a platform prepared for the occasion. He will then be presented with addresses by deputations from the three committees, after which he will enter a carriage provided for the occasion by his Grace the Duke of Sutherland. In the meantime the procession will be formed on the Wandsworth-road, and will march past the carriage containing the General, which, with the other carriages containing his friends and the members of the committee, will then fall into the rear. The procession will then take the following route:—From Wandsworth-road into Miles-street, through Bond-street into New-Bridge-street, and thence along Upper Kennington-lane, Kennington-road, Westminster-bridge-road, Westminster Bridge, Parliament-street, Charing-cross, and Pall-mall to Stafford House, arriving at which Garibaldi will then alight and be received by the Duke of Sutherland. The procession will then pass by the east side of Stafford House into St. James's Park, where it will break up. All organised bodies taking part in the procession will be expected to be on the ground by half past two o'clock at the latest, and will be marshalled into place by properly appointed persons in the order of their arrival. On the arrival of the train containing the General the band stationed on the platform will play the Garibaldian Hymn. The railway authorities have afforded every facility for the promotion of the object, and have placed their commodious premises at the Nine Elms station entirely at the disposal of the committees. Among the organised bodies of workmen who will take part in the procession are most of the metropolitan trade societies, the Foresters, Odd Fellows, Old Friends, the Temperance societies, Band of Hope Union, Sons of the Phoenix, the Working Men's Clubs, &c., in full regalia, accompanied by their bands and flags. The Freemasons have also expressed their intention to send a strong deputation. The bands of the Foresters, the 48th Middlesex Rifles (the Havelocks), &c., will attend gratuitously. Mr. E. T. Smith, of Cremorne, has also placed the flags of his establishment at the disposal of the committee.

It appears that the proposal to confer the freedom of the City upon Garibaldi will not be allowed to pass without some discussion. Mr. Norris, M.P., one of the representatives of Aldersgate, has given notice of his intention to move the previous question when Mr. Richardson brings forward his motion.

Garibaldi has received invitations to visit Edinburgh, Birmingham, Newcastle, and other large towns.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN is described by the Washington wags as having his time filled up with levies and levées.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys has forwarded a note to the French Ambassador in London which confirms the statement that France will propose at the conference on the Germano-Danish question that the people of the duchies should be allowed to choose, by universal suffrage, who shall be their governor. It is asserted that one, at least, of the great German Powers has accepted this proposition, with "certain modifications."

There is no domestic news of any importance from France, and the papers are filled with contradictory rumours as to the acceptance of the Mexican throne by the Archduke Maximilian.

ITALY.

The preparations for war already announced as actively going on in Venetia have excited the liveliest attention at Turin, the journals of which city are earnestly urging the Government to arm at once and stand ready to repel a probable attack from Austria. The *Diritto* of Turin states that a circular addressed to all the prefects of the kingdom of Italy, signed by the Minister Spaventa, orders them to search after and seize the money received for the million of muskets and also the collections of rings. They are likewise to denounce to the judicial authorities the collectors of such donations.

A Pontifical rescript has been published authorising a loan of 40,000,000 lire to defray the expenses of the public administration.

The Pope went to the church of Santa Maria Sofia Minerva on Monday, where he assisted in the religious ceremonies performed at the Feast of the Annunciation. His health is much improved.

AUSTRIA.

Austria appears decided to place Venetia in a state of siege. Precautionary measures continue to be taken in Southern Tyrol. The fortified places, especially Kufstein, are receiving strong garrisons. Mountain defiles and gorges are carefully watched.

News from the Rouman frontier gives reason to apprehend a rising in that quarter. The military governor of Transylvania, in accordance with orders from Vienna, is taking precautions in order to protect the province against any coup de main. Strong bodies of troops are being concentrated on the Wallachian frontier.

DENMARK.

Advices from Copenhagen state that the elections for the formation of the Superior Council (Landsting) have just taken place in Denmark, properly so called, and in the island of Alsion, not occupied by the enemy's army. The old chiefs of the National Unitary party have been named in most of the districts—that is to say, that the principle of the defence and preservation of the Monarchical unity will have a majority in the First Chamber. A Session extraordinary of both Chambers will be opened in the course of the present month.

GREECE AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

The condition of the Ionian Islands is described as somewhat disturbed at present, and at Corfu an attack has been made upon the house of the English director of public schools. The King of the Greeks is expected to visit the island shortly, and to open the Ionian Chamber in person. According to news from Corfu, the transfer of the Ionian Islands to Greece will take place on the 28th inst.

A battalion had been disbanded at Missalonghi for mutiny.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

THE news from New York comes down to the 24th of March. There is in it very little of importance. Lee was giving signs of a forward movement, but a heavy snowstorm had put a stop to active operations in Virginia. A portion of Longstreet's force is stated to be on the move to Kentucky. The bulk of it, however, is believed to be about to join Lee. The Confederates were reported to be about to attack Norfolk. A Federal expedition of considerable magnitude was preparing to ascend the Red River.

Advices from Charleston to the 19th ult. state that the Confederates have mounted five rifled guns, in casemates, on Fort Sumter, bearing on the channel; and they have completed another ironclad in the harbour. The *Raleigh Progress* asserts that General Beauregard has been appointed to the command of the army of the south-west. General D. H. Hill succeeds General Beauregard at Charleston.

According to a statement issued by the Provost-Marshal-General at Washington, the total deficiency of troops in all the States under the several calls of the President is 311,724. Illinois is the only State which has completed its quotas; New York is deficient by 50,230, and Pennsylvania by 74,127.

A vessel had arrived at New York which reported having seen a ship resembling the Italian frigate Rè Galantiamo on the 10th ult., running southward, with her maintopmast gone, but showing no signals of distress, so that there is a hope that the ship, which was supposed to have been lost previous to the 10th, may yet be safe.

THE PAPERS ON THE DANISH QUESTION.

The fifth instalment of the Danish correspondence has now been published, and the story of the many and various negotiations to which the Dano-German dispute gave rise may now be considered complete. The correspondence is brought down to the last days of March; and the assent of the belligerents as well as of the chief neutral Powers to a conference, with the view to the re-establishment of peace, is the last event of importance which is recorded.

The first letters in the series of papers just published bear date in the last week in January. At that time Holstein was administered by federal commissioners, every Danish official had been dismissed, the chief towns in the duchy were occupied by Saxon and Hanoverian troops, and an Austro-Prussian army was massed upon the left bank of the Eider. Federal execution in Holstein had been carried out, and the invasion of Schleswig by the allied armies was momentarily threatened. The mission of Lord Wodehouse to Copenhagen had then ended in failure. The constitution of November still remained unrevoked, and the Governments of Austria and Prussia formally declared that the non-revocation of that Constitution would be made a *casus belli*. Such was the position of affairs at the close of January; and, accordingly, we find that at that time commenced those negotiations—unfortunately unsuccessful—in which the English Cabinet, in conjunction with those of Paris and St. Petersburg, urged upon the German Powers the expediency of postponing hostilities until the Danish Parliament should have had an opportunity of revoking the obnoxious Constitution. These negotiations virtually came to an end on the 29th of January, when our Minister at Berlin transmitted to Earl Russell the refusal of the Prussian Government to suspend hostilities, even though an engagement were entered into by the chief neutral Powers binding Denmark to rescind the November Constitution. On the 1st day of February the allied armies entered Schleswig, on the 4th the Danes made their unsuccessful attack upon Missunde, and on the 6th the Dannewerke was abandoned, and the Danish army retired upon Doppel and Fredericia. From this point there is little deserving of notice in the mass of correspondence until the 11th of February, when the Danish Minister in London made a formal demand upon the British Government to assist Denmark, basing this demand upon the engagements entered into by Great Britain in 1720, and on the expediency of maintaining the Treaty of London. Almost at the same time commenced the negotiations set on foot by the British Government, and supported by France and Russia, with the object of obtaining a suspension of hostilities as a prelude to a conference—negotiations which were immediately cut short by the abrupt refusal of the German Powers to consent to an armistice.

The most important, and at the same time most interesting, despatches will, however, be found at the close of the series. Foiled in their endeavours to secure an armistice, the English Cabinet next

sought to induce the belligerents to assent to a conference without a cessation of hostilities. To this proposal the German Powers almost immediately assented; but, in the then state of public feeling at Copenhagen, the Danish Cabinet found itself under the necessity of asking time for consideration. At a later period (March 7), and pending the decision of the Danish Government, the German Powers issued their proposals for an armistice upon the basis of the preservation of the military *status quo*, or the simultaneous evacuation of Jutland and Schleswig by the Germans and the Danes. These proposals were pressed upon the acceptance of the Danish Government by Earl Russell in a despatch dated the 9th of March, but were at once rejected on the ground that, with Jutland completely at the mercy of the allies, the *status quo* did not admit of definition, and because the course which affairs had taken had rendered an armistice much less favourable to Denmark than it would have been when first proposed by England and rejected by the German Powers. The assent of the Danish Government to the conference was finally notified to Earl Russell on March 17; and, although it is accepted on the basis of the Treaty of 1851-2, an intimation is given that "its adoption will not preclude the discussion of other modes of arrangement if an arrangement cannot be come to on that basis." Virtually, then, a conference has been arranged, but upon no particular basis, unless Earl Russell be correct in terming that a basis which is, in truth, but an end—namely, the restoration of peace in the north of Europe.

TRIAL OF THE ARMSTRONG AND WHITWORTH GUNS.

The long expected contest between the Whitworth and Armstrong systems of artillery commenced on Monday afternoon, at Shoeburyness, in the presence of most of the members of the Select Ordnance Committee and a large number of noblemen and gentlemen interested in the subject.

Sir William Armstrong is represented by three 12-pounder breech-loaders and three muzzle-loading shunt guns of the same calibre, and Mr. Whitworth by three muzzle-loaders of the same size. These nine guns are already on the ground, and three 70-pounder Armstrong breech-loaders, three 20-pounder Armstrong muzzle-loaders, and three 70-pounder Whitworth muzzle-loaders are on their way from Woolwich to Shoeburyness.

The details of the trial are kept secret at present; but it is pretty well known that a minimum of 3000 rounds will be fired from each gun. The contest will be necessarily very tedious, and will extend over a period of two or three months, if not more. At first sight this seems to be an unnecessary expenditure of time and money, but the committee are desirous of testing these arms to their very utmost capacity, at every range, with every variety of projectile and against every kind of defence. They will also be tested with reference to the quickness with which they can be charged and fired. After the 3000 rounds have been fired, it is believed that the guns will be subjected to a series of proofs with gradually increasing charges of powder.

The trial commenced with one each of the three descriptions of 12-pounders. Seven rounds of solid shot, three of dead segmental shells, and five of dead common shells were fired point blank, to test the exact range of each gun. Six rounds of solid shell were then fired at one degree of elevation, and the contest was prematurely stopped by a violent storm of rain and wind, which swept across the marshes from the south-west. Up to the last three or four rounds the weather had been most balmy and springlike, there being hardly a breath of wind stirring to interfere with the practice.

Since last the Whitworth 12-pounders were tried at Shoebury Mr. Whitworth has strengthened them with an extra coil at the breech, making them nearly 20 per cent heavier than the Armstrongs of corresponding calibre, which weigh rather more than 8 cwt. He has also, at the suggestion of the Ordnance Committee, opened a vent through the top of the breech, as well as through the caseable, the method of firing the gun through the caseable vent being thought dangerous to the gunners. The gun tried on Monday was fired through the breech vent, but the caseable vent can be easily unplugged and used, if necessary, as the danger incurred from the flying pieces is obviated by the vent being protected by a tube attached to the caseable.

The experiments were continued on Tuesday. The guns were tried at ranges successively of 200, 300, and 400 yards. In the nearer ranges the Whitworth gun appeared to the bystanders to have an advantage, which was recovered by the Armstrong muzzle-loading gun in the more distant firing. The proceedings are being continued from day to day, but no satisfactory estimate of the merits of the several guns can be made till the whole series of experiments has been completed.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

FINSBURY.—Sir Morton Peto having intimated his intention to retire from the representation of Finsbury, measures are being taken to provide a successor. Sir Joshua Walmsley, Mr. Donald Nicoll, the Lord Mayor (Mr. W. Lawrence), and Alderman Lusk, have been spoken of on the Liberal side; and Mr. Henry Pownall on the Conservative. There is a strong feeling of dissatisfaction with Mr. Cox for his conduct in the Stanfield affair, and opposition to his re-election is threatened by parties who have hitherto supported him.

LANCASTER.—Mr. W. J. Garnett having resigned his seat, three candidates are in the field—namely, Mr. Fenwick, Mr. Saunders, and Mr. F. Somerville Head.

CITY OF OXFORD.—The nomination is fixed for this day (Saturday). There is no opposition likely to be made to Mr. Cardwell's re-election.

FIFESHIRE.—Sir Robert Anstruther has been requested by the Liberals to come forward for the seat vacant by the death of Mr. Wemyss. At a meeting of the Conservatives on Tuesday, Captain Anstruther Thompson, of Charlemont, was nominated, Lord Loughborough having declined to stand.

DOMESDAY BOOK.—Sir H. James's report on the Ordnance survey for 1863 states, as is usual, the progress made in the year with the survey and with the maps on the several scales adopted, and gives some interesting details relating to the production of the facsimile of "Domesday Book" by the photo-zincographic process. The publication is now finished, and the sale proceeds very steadily. The demand for copies in relation to some counties is very large, so much so as to have made second editions necessary. The prices were fixed so as just to cover the cost of producing a certain number of copies, but, as the negatives and plates have been preserved, copies can now be produced at much less price, and, as the demand for such a work as this does not depend upon the fashion of the day, but is certain to continue, the produce of the sale will ultimately yield a large profit to the Government.

THE WAR IN DENMARK.

BOMBARDMENT OF SONDERBURG.

A telegram from Ulkeboi states that the Prussians had bombarded Sonderburg without having given any preliminary warning; that eighty townpeople, women and children, had been killed and wounded; that 1500 shells had been thrown into the town, which is now deserted; and that fifty houses had been burnt. The cannonade, which had suddenly ceased on the morning of the 4th, was recommenced during the day; but the Danish position was uninjured. On the night of the 5th, according to a telegram from the Prussian head-quarters, one of the regiments of the Guards drove in the Danish outposts and took up a position considerably in advance of the place they had previously held. The Prussian telegram speaks of the capture of many Danes, with, of course, infinitesimal loss on the part of the assailants.

The allies have now, it is reported, a plan in preparation for endeavouring to turn the position of Doppel by crossing to and taking possession of the Island of Alsion.

OPERATIONS IN JUTLAND.—ALLEGED MUTINY IN THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.

A Hamburg paper asserts that 6000 Danes have lately attacked and beaten the Prussians near Veile at the positions abandoned by the Austrians. This news requires to be confirmed.

There is a statement in the Paris journals purporting to come from Copenhagen, which, if well founded, indicates embarrassments and dangers for the Austrian army in Jutland. It will be remembered that the Austrians were said to have raised the siege of Fredericia, and gone southwards, and that the motive for this retreat was unknown. It is now stated to have arisen from the discovery of a conspiracy among the Hungarian troops to go over to the Danes. It is added that some hundreds of these troops had been condemned to death and shot within the Austrian quarters.

Count Rechberg has telegraphed to the Austrian Ambassador in London instructing him to give the most unqualified denial to the statement that the Hungarian troops before Fredericia had mutinied. The *Paris Siècle*, however, publishes, but with reserve, the following extract from a letter from a Parisian merchant, who is at the seat of war, on business:—

Agitated by the gloomy spectacle of the day, and unable to sleep, I was occupied in writing to my family, and at times I mechanically looked out of window, when I perceived some lanterns, which advanced through a wood

towards a point where I had noticed some soldiers the evening before digging a large pit, under the orders of two Austrian officers. Looking more attentively, I thought I perceived a certain number of soldiers silently following the lanterns. My excited curiosity urged me to get at the meaning of this strange event, and, despite the dangers of the step, I determined to brave the cold and dark night, and, stealthily gliding out, I saw at least two hundred soldiers divested of their uniform and with their hands tied behind their backs; they were lighted by lanterns, and at a given signal platoon-firing was heard; those who were not dead were finished with the bayonet, and then the pit was filled up with earth. I thought at first that these were Danish prisoners who were shot in this manner, but I learned afterwards from one of the soldiers who had succeeded in escaping that they were Hungarians who wanted to revolt and join the Danes.

THE CONFERENCE.

A semi-official Vienna paper states that the allied Powers will demand at the conference the political union of Schleswig and Holstein with Germany. If this be so, it will be hopeless to attempt any conference or compromise at all. Meantime, the Holstein Estates have protested against any decision of the Powers impairing the rights of the duchies.

Private letters from Copenhagen assert that the resolution of Denmark remains unshaken not to enter into negotiations on the Schleswig-Holstein question unless they are conducted on the basis of the Treaties of 1851 and 1852.

A telegram from Copenhagen announces that M. de Quaade and M. Krieger were to leave that city on Tuesday to attend as Plenipotentiaries for Denmark at the conference in London.

THE ASSAULT ON DUPPEL.

A correspondent in the Danish camp gives the following account of the attack on the forts at Doppel on the morning of Monday, the 28th ult.:—

The enemy's batteries had for sixteen days been firing on our extreme left. We therefore thought that the portion of our line at which he would make an entrance. There was, in consequence, very little suspicion that he would first approach on the right of our works. This, of course, was known to the enemy; hence it was an artful attempt to make an attack on our right. The outlying pickets, about three o'clock, perceived some movement amongst the Prussians, and immediately they were pressed upon by a force which, though only in skirmishing order, vastly outnumbered themselves. A sharp musketry fire immediately commenced, and our men, in retreating, retired with great steadiness, though with considerable loss to themselves, and this saved the forts from a surprise. Even if the surprise had been successful, I do not think a man of the Prussian advance would have been saved; they might certainly have escaped the guns, but, being inferior in number, they would have been bayoneted and riddled with musketry by the Danes inside. However, the obstinacy of our outposts put the gunners on the alert, and as our men came in the cheering of the pursuing Prussians gave a guide in the darkness to our artillerymen, and the guns of the two batteries on the right poured in shot and shell, which seemed to check the advance. So far had the Prussians come up, that a party of one officer and twenty-five men, who were probably the forlorn hope of the advance, were seen after the first fire lying on the ground outside the battery, where they were obliged to throw themselves for safety, their comrades not coming up behind. A non-commissioned officer and six men walked down from the battery, and the Prussian party immediately surrendered, and were brought in by this plucky little band of Danes. Two or three times the assault was attempted again, but the incessant fire of guns and muskets, discharged in the direction where the noise and cheering were heard, checked the advance, and as daylight came on it seemed to be quite given up. The Prussians were seen in the distance scampering off in large numbers. This was the attack on the right. That on the right centre was badly timed, and took place somewhat later. It was conducted in the same way, except that the enemy did not come quite so near, though the entreaties of the officers to the men to advance could be heard distinctly, and the answers of the men loudly in the negative; and at grey dawn some of our officers saw with their glasses the Prussian officers actually striking the men with their swords in an effort to get them on. We are beginning to be assured that the enemy does not lose quarters. The daylight must have enabled our gunners to do good execution at this point, but the enemy kept no column or battalion formation, and scattered much. They are said to have run faster than is exactly legitimate for the most expert skirmishers. The intended attack on the left was confined to a mere demonstration by the beautiful manœuvring of the Rolf Krake iron-clad gun-boat. She steamed up the bay and threw her shells fast on the ground opposite the Prussians, and up to their very front. The enemy's batteries at Vemmingbund were meantime depressing their guns to get the ship's range, but before they could do so all was over, and the enemy had retired on all points. The Rolf Krake steamed round the bay, getting in her passage out closer under the Prussian batteries for safety.

The conduct of Mr. Auberon Herbert, brother to the Earl of Carnarvon, of his travelling companion Mr. Hall, and of Captain Bond, is highly commended in letters from the Danish camp. For a week Mr. Herbert had been seen about the works against which the enemy's fire was heaviest. The soldiers were familiar with his appearance, and had given him the nickname of "the leather man," from a slight peculiarity in his dress. He had always been amiable himself towards the soldiers, whose naivete may have made them rather troublesome. On the morning of the 28th ult. he was early in the works, applauding the bravery shown by the soldiers. But he was not content to be an idle spectator. Seizing a litter, he rushed out into the thickest of the hottest fire and assisted to bring in the wounded, and was zealously seconded by the other two Englishmen mentioned. The Danish loss is about 40 killed and 160 wounded. They took four officers and 27 men prisoners.

PRUSSIAN OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

The official *Staatsanzeiger* of Berlin gives the following account of the engagement in the trenches before Doppel on the 28th ult.:—

It was intended to press back the enemy's outposts behind his intrenchments, in order to make undisturbed use of the ground for the siege-works. Thanks to the extraordinary valour displayed by the troops, although for the first time closely engaged, and almost without intermission exposed to the fire of heavy artillery, this intention was perfectly attained.

At daybreak the Fusilier battalion of the 1st Posen Infantry Regiment, No. 18, moved up from the right of the road leading to Sonderburg, whilst the first and second battalions of the Grenadier Guards Regiment, No. 18, advanced past Oster-Doppel. Without firing a shot, they rushed upon the enemy and forced him to retreat. After a short but severe bayonet fight our troops established themselves in the rifle-pits at the foot of the glacis, close to the iron-wire fence.

The enemy now opened a murderous fire against this position from all his works, covering the field with grape and all kinds of projectiles, while the Rolf Krake steamed into the Wenningband, close up to the right wing of our skirmishing troops, and fired into the flank and rear of the Fusiliers of the 18th with grape and shrapnel. A Danish field-battery at the same time came out of Fort No. 6 and opened with grape upon the Guards fighting on the left wing, and its fire was supported by columns of infantry who appeared at the same moment. Under these circumstances it was thought advisable to give up the extreme and exposed position at the foot of the glacis. The 18th Regiment, however, still held the slopes, about three hundred paces in advance of the position occupied before the attack—the Guards partly their original position, partly the ground further in advance to the north of Doppel. This position is still maintained. The Brandenburg Fusilier Regiment, No. 5, which had been thrown forward to the Billefjelk, was not brought into action, as the object was already attained, and the Danes, after the Rolf Krake had received four shots from our batteries and had withdrawn, contented themselves with only keeping up the fire from their works a short time longer.

The troops behaved admirably. They advanced with great impetuosity, endured the extraordinarily violent fire with much valour, and were in no way dispirited even by the comparatively heavy loss.

The enemy lost 61 men in prisoners and a considerable number of killed and wounded; the precise amount cannot as yet be stated. Our loss, also not yet exactly ascertained, amounts to about 150 men.

The repulse of the Prussians is stated by correspondents to be much more serious than the Prussian despatcher would admit. Their loss is reported to be between 200 and 250 killed and wounded, besides prisoners.

THE STOLEN BREAKFAST BASKET.

A Lieutenant of the 6th Prussian Cuirassiers, commanding a reconnaissance-patrol, pushed forward into a village in the possession of the Danes, but wholly undefended. From the door of a house one of the inhabitants was observed to issue, carrying a well-filled basket. The Lieutenant immediately made him prisoner, and he and his basket were carried off at a gallop. Such is the incident depicted in our Engraving. The prisoner experienced a most cordial reception at the bivouac, for his basket was found to contain a most welcome supply of provisions and wine.

PRUSSIAN INFANTRY QUARTERED IN THE CHAPEL OF THE CASTLE OF GRAVENSTEIN.

The Castle of Gravenstein, formerly belonging to the Duke of Augustenburg, lately the head-quarters of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, is situated on the shores of the Gulf of Flensburg.

It stands in a valley, between two lakes, which are encircled by thickly-wooded hills. This castle was erected at great expense by Count Ahlefeldt, in the year 1709, and the chapel is said to have been built after the model of the Jesuits' church at Antwerp. It is now converted into a barrack for Prussian troops, and the words that pass from mouth to mouth are not, as may naturally be supposed, always in accordance with the sanctity of the place. The soldiers, however, find that the chapel affords snug quarters, well sheltered against the wind and bad weather, and they make themselves comfortable, or at least as comfortable as soldiers can be in a winter campaign in an ungenial climate.

A HOLSTEIN FARMHOUSE.

The houses occupied by the rural inhabitants of Holstein and South Schleswig (in most of which German troops are now quartered) are in the old Saxon style, and very similar to the dwellings of the Mecklenburg and Hanoverian peasantry. They are large oblong structures, formed of a framework of beams and planks, the interstices being filled up with bricks. The high, sloping roofs are covered with thatch, and at each end there is an elevated ridge of wood cut in the form of a horse's head. The chimneys are so small and ill-contrived that the smoke finds its chief outlet at the doors, which in most of the rooms open to the road. The beams and planks of the walls and the gable ends of the roof are painted in bright, gay colours, as blue, green, or red.

The spacious size of most of these houses is accounted for by the fact that the farmhouse is not merely the dwelling-place



THE WAR IN DENMARK.—AN EPISODE IN THE PRUSSIAN CAMP: THE STOLEN BREAKFAST-BASKET.

of the family, but comprises within its walls the barn, cow-house, &c. Entering at the principal door, the visitor finds himself in the barn (called in Danish the *tøh*), which occupies three fourths of the whole length of the building. Right and left of the barn are spaces allotted to the cows, and

a well-made and comfortable bed. If it be not very easy to lie down at night, it would be still more difficult to rise in the morning, were it not for the assistance of a rope fixed in the ceiling. The furniture of this ordinary sitting-room is of the commonest kind, consisting merely of a table and a few benches

beneath the roof, on poles crossed one over another, are laid stores of various kinds. At the extreme end of the building is the large kitchen, the fireplace ornamented above and around with culinary utensils of bright copper and tin. Over a blazing fire hangs suspended by a chain a kettle of enormous size, containing some favourite specimen of Danish cookery—possibly a sort of porridge made of groats, or a greasy kind of broth in which bacon forms an ingredient.

The smoke which fills the place, especially in windy weather, though by no means agreeable to those unaccustomed to it, is nevertheless not wholly unwelcome to the inmates of the farm, as it serves to dry and flavour hams and sausages suspended from the ceiling.

On the right and left of the kitchen doors communicate with other rooms, the windows of which look to the garden. One is the ordinary sitting-room, called "döorns," and the other is one of a better kind, called the "posel." Each of these apartments serves at once as sitting-room and sleeping-room. But no bed is visible, so that a stranger, on being conducted to his bed-room, wonders where he is to find his resting-place. But presently the farmer's wife slides back a panel of the wall, and low down in this mysterious recess is discovered



BIVOUAC OF PRUSSIAN INFANTRY IN THE CHURCH OF THE CASTLE OF GRAVENSTEIN.—(FROM SKETCHES BY AUGUSTUS BECK.)

and chairs made of deal. Several large wooden chests, painted in gay colours, contain the ample supply of wearing apparel and household linen which constitute the chief portion of the dowry of every rustic bride of the country. From the ceiling are hung the farmer's gun and razors, thus placed beyond the reach of careless or mischievous hands. So much for the ordinary sitting-room.

The other apartment (called the "pesel") is a sort of state-room, in which are held the ceremonies and solemnities attending the marriages, christenings, and deaths of members of the family. This room is well furnished. It usually contains a secretaire, a sofa, and, not unfrequently, a pillar-clock—all of mahogany. It is carpeted, and the tables have covers. Sometimes the pesel contains even a pianoforte, and always a collection of silver-mounted meerschaums, of which the owner is not a little proud.

Besides the mortal inhabitants of a Holstein farmhouse, a being of another class used invariably to form a member of the rural household. This was a sort of spirit, apparently bearing a close affinity to the

brownie, once the object of a well-known superstition in the rural districts of Scotland. The Danish spirit, like the brownie, is the good genius of the family. When seen, he was described as being attired in the garb of a peasant, with a pointed cap on his head. He was accustomed to perform all sorts of domestic services unperceived, even to milk the cows and groom the horses. He has now disappeared, having, as is gravely alleged, been frightened away ever since the schoolmaster "has been abroad." However, he is still believed to exercise his benevolent influence over those favoured families near whose habitations the stork loves to build her nest. Storks' nests are common in Holstein, and are regarded as tokens of good luck.

HUSSAR ATTACK AT SCHMEDEBY.

After the Dannewerk had been abandoned by the Danes and the latter had commenced their retreat on Flensburg, General Gabelentz immediately led on the pursuit. The Leichtenstein Hussars came up with the enemy at Schmedeby, where an engagement took place, which is portrayed in our Engraving.



INTERIOR OF A PEASANT'S COTTAGE IN HOLSTEIN.—(FROM A SKETCH BY PUSCHLIN.)



ATTACK BY THE LICHTENSTEIN HUZZARS ON THE DANISH REARGUARD AT SCHMEDEBY.—(FROM A SKETCH BY AUGUSTUS BECK.)

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 230.

“AFTER EASTER.”

“After Easter”—that portentous time which the political soothsayers have been so long foretelling is to be fruitful of great events—has come. The House of Commons reassembled on Monday evening. There were, however, no signs of the grand events foretold—no rush, no excitement. Circulars had doubtless been sent out to the supporters of the Government summoning them to attend. Corresponding notices had probably been dispatched to members on the other side; but these summonses were not urgent, and comparatively few obeyed the call. Lord Palmerston was, as usual, early in his place; but several of the Ministers were absent. Sir Charles Wood was not there, nor Mr. Milner Gibson, nor Mr. Cardwell. He, though, had vacated his seat upon taking the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies, *vice* the Duke of Newcastle, resigned. In short, the Ministerial bench was but thinly attended. The leaders of her Majesty’s Opposition, too, were most of them conspicuous by their absence. Neither Mr. Disraeli, nor Sir John Pakington, nor Lord Stanley, nor Lord John Manners, nor Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald was present. Indeed, the only man of note on the front bench of the Opposition was General Peel. A rumour has been fluttering about that the gallant General is in future to be leader of the party, with Mr. Disraeli to act as his mouthpiece, or chief debater. Does the absence of Disraeli and the presence of the gallant General, then, confirm this rumour? We cannot think it. The rumour is based upon no good authority, and at the house it is considered a joke. Besides, it is no uncommon thing for Disraeli to be absent when there is nothing special upon the paper; and it is quite a common thing for the General to be present early in the evening. He comes down to listen to the questions and answers; in an hour or so he flits away and is seen no more till after dinner, unless the Army Estimates or some other matter cognate thereto be the business of the evening. In such case he is always at his post. He has been Secretary at War, and will be so again in the next Conservative Government; and, of course, feels as much bound to watch the expenditure of the war department as the Secretary in possession himself. The Pall-mall gossips, with all their talent for raising mountains of froth out of the smallest possible bit of soap, can make nothing out of this. Indeed, that gobsmache must have a rare stomach who could swallow such a canard.

MR. STANSFIELD’S RESIGNATION.

“But was there not the Stansfeld affair?” we think we hear some of our readers say. “How was it that this did not bring the members down?” And our readers may well ask this question. When this matter last came before us, the House was in a white heat of excitement. Lord Harry Vane stormed like a simoom, Disraeli raged like a bear that has lost its whelps, and generally, as was said at the time, members on the Conservative side of the House were as nearly as possible mad; and to outsiders it would naturally appear extraordinary that so few were present to hear Mr. Stansfeld announce his retirement from office and give his explanation, and that the few who did come down were so calm and unmoved. Well, the explanation is this:—In the first place, the fact that Mr. Stansfeld had resigned was not generally known. The matter was settled between Lord Palmerston and the honourable member for Halifax on Saturday, but it was kept a secret until Monday morning. And then there was not much time for the news to fly abroad before the House assembled. It is, however, rather remarkable that the beagles of the press, with their keen scent, did not hunt out this notable fact on Sunday, so as to get it into Monday morning’s papers. They got hold of the resignation of the Duke of Newcastle, and the appointment of Mr. Cardwell as his successor; but, somehow, this more important bit of news they wholly missed. This was one reason. But there was another, which we may put figuratively. Whilst the hunt of a noble stag is going on the field is all excitement; but when the game is dead or lost all the excitement ceases. And so, whilst Mr. Stansfeld stuck to his post his persecutors were all alert, and energetic, and determined; but when he had retired their object was gained, and the excitement, which had been blown to such a storm, suddenly and naturally collapsed; and, besides this, we are not sure that many of the honourable gentleman’s persecutors had not already become ashamed of their conduct, and determined in their own minds to take no part in any future persecution. “We have done enough,” we heard one of them say, a man of no mean position on the Conservative side of the house; “to do more would look as if we were moved by personal antipathy.” And thus it happened that, the thing not being generally known, few members came down, and that those who were present received the announcement and explanation very calmly; and though, by moving the adjournment of the House, Mr. Stansfeld gave the opportunity to his enemies to criticise his statement and debate the general question, no debate ensued.

HIS EXPLANATION.

When Mr. Stansfeld entered the house he took his seat, not upon the Treasury bench, as he was wont to do, but in his old place below the gangway. By this we all knew that the report was true, and that he had really resigned his post. For a time after he came in there was some routine business to be performed, petitions to be presented and questions to be answered; but at last the Speaker announced, in due form, “the Clerk will now read the orders of the day,” and then Mr. Stansfeld rose. It had, no doubt, been told to the Speaker that Mr. Stansfeld had a personal explanation to make; and, therefore, when he rose to interrupt the reading of the orders, Mr. Speaker showed no surprise. According to strict rule, to stop the business of the House, even to make a personal explanation, is disorderly; the rule, however, is now always set aside when a member “claims the indulgence of the House,” as the phrase is, to give an explanation of a matter in which he says that he is personally concerned; but in such cases no debate can ensue. Generally, only the member himself is allowed to speak. But Mr. Stansfeld did not wish merely to give an explanation, he desired the freest discussion upon his conduct, and on his rising he at once threw down the gauntlet to his foes by moving the adjournment of the House; and here we may as well tell our readers that any member may at any time move the adjournment of the House; and, further, that upon such a motion all sorts of subjects may, by the exercise of a little ingenuity, be discussed. “On the motion for adjournment,” said an hon. member once, “I would undertake to discuss every subject that you can imagine, and still be in order.” Mr. Stansfeld, then, by thus moving the adjournment of the House, not only put himself effectually in order, but he thereby boldly challenged the freest discussion upon his conduct; and if no one took up the gauge that he thus bravely threw down, it was no fault of his. But, though Mr. Stansfeld thus challenged discussion, there was nothing haughty or defiant in his tone and manner. He had been cruelly persecuted, ingeniously misrepresented, and grossly maligned. His generosity to a friend had been turned into a crime; and many simply natural and innocent acts flowing out of that generosity had been twisted and tortured into evidence to prove his guilt. And if the hon. gentleman had, now he was free from the trammels of office, turned round upon his persecutors and given them as good as they gave, no one could have been surprised; indeed, we are astonished, when we think of his provocations, that he did not, now that a fair opportunity had come. But no doubt he chose the more excellent way. The wise proverb of a wise man says, “He that ruleth his spirit doeth better than he that taketh a city.” Mr. Stansfeld has a career before him; a cloud has suddenly dropped down upon his path; but this will soon lift and pass away, and then he will reap the fruits of his calm philosophy and forbearance.

INGLORIOUS VICTORY.

The deed is done, then. Mr. Stansfeld’s enemies have conquered—have gained an inglorious victory, and an able servant of the country has been immolated on the altar of Faction. Mr. Stansfeld has held the office of Civil Lord of the Admiralty about a year. In that time he has worked as Civil Lord never worked before. He has licked the dockyard accounts into shape, entered that chaotic region and reduced it to order, and gained golden opinions from all sorts of men. Everybody says that he has proved

himself to be an admirable administrator. He was complimented by all parties in the house; great and valuable reforms were expected to result from his energy, zeal, and intelligence. He was acknowledged to be the right man in the right place. But he has fallen before a faction. Such is the way in which this great country is governed! Earl Russell has often chanted the praise of government by party. Mr. Disraeli, in his books and speeches, has taken up the refrain; and most of our political writers have joined in the chorus,—Great is government by party! Great is government by party! Well, it may be so; but, verily, in working out this great idea we often come across motives and actions which are exceedingly little. When Mr. Stansfeld had finished his speech, which was acknowledged to be admirably conceived and perfectly satisfactory, though somewhat nervously delivered, Lord Palmerston rose and uttered a warm panegyric upon the late Civil Lord, and the motion for adjournment having been withdrawn, the House quietly passed to the orders of the day, as if nothing had happened.

AN AWFUL MUDDLE.

On Tuesday we had that curious and laughable Lisburn Election Committee imbroglio before the House. Surely nothing so ridiculous has happened in Parliamentary history as this. It is all a muddle, so perplexing and confused that the keenest lawyer cannot see through it, whilst all our experienced statesmen and Parliamentary officials stand before it utterly confounded. During the vacation there was an election at Lisburn; the candidates were Mr. Verner, son of Sir Wm. Verner, member for the county of Armagh, and Mr. Richardson. Mr. Verner was returned, whereupon Mr. Richardson petitioned against the return; and in due course a Committee was struck, and proceeded to try the case under the chairmanship of Mr. Adair, the member for Ipswich, one of the most experienced chairmen of Committees that we have in the House—a man who loves his work, and who was supposed to know the laws which govern the proceedings of these Committees as perfectly as he knows the alphabet. Well, the proceedings were protracted, and, when the House adjourned for the Easter holidays, were not finished; but, according to law, though the House adjourned, the Committee continued to work—sat on Saturday, and meant to sit on the following Monday; but on that day it was found that Mr. Stirling, a member of the Committee, was ill and could not attend. Now, if the House had been sitting the chairman would have reported this fact, and the House by a formal resolution would have excused the attendance of Mr. Stirling; but the House was not sitting; and what ought the Committee to have done in such circumstances? It ought to have adjourned till the day on which the House was appointed to sit, so that at the earliest possible opportunity it might get a resolution of the House to excuse the attendance of Mr. Stirling; but, strange to say, albeit it had the Act of Parliament before it and many learned lawyers to advise it, and a chairman who was supposed to be more learned in such matters than the lawyers, it adjourned to the day after that on which the House was to meet; and hence all this muddle. According to the sages of the law, who seem to be unanimous on the point, the Committee is by this blunder defunct, utterly dead; dead, too, without possibility of being revived; in short, is dissolved. But, then, what follows? Ay, there’s the rub! Why, first, all the acts and labours of the Committee have been in vain; secondly, Mr. Richardson, the petitioner—who, it is understood, would have ousted his opponent and probably have got the seat—sees all his prospects vanish; but, thirdly and worst of all, this Committee sits not under the rules and orders of the House, but under the provisions of an Act of Parliament. Not only, therefore, is the mistake utterly beyond the power of the House to remedy, but the Committee is amenable to a court of law. On Wednesday the Committee reported that at their meeting that morning counsel for the sitting member had protested against the competency to proceed further, and the Committee had arrived at the conclusion that they were no longer legally empowered as a Committee to proceed further in the matters of the said petition. And there the matter rests for the present.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, APRIL 4.
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons met again on Monday.

THE CONFERENCE.

In reply to questions from Mr. Osborne, Lord PALMERSTON said that the Powers who had signed the Danio-German Treaty of 1852 had consented to send representatives to the conference, but that no answer had been received from the German Diet, who were also invited to send a representative. The basis of the conference would be an endeavour to restore peace to the North of Europe; but her Majesty’s Government did not think it desirable, on the pica of establishing a basis, to settle beforehand those points which would be more properly the subject of discussion in the conference itself. The noble Lord added that an armistice pending the conference was not now contemplated.

RESIGNATION OF MR. STANSFIELD.

Mr. STANSFIELD (who spoke from a seat below the gangway at the Ministerial side) moved the formal adjournment of the House, with the view of affording himself an opportunity for making a personal explanation. He observed that since the House last met he had felt it to be his duty to tender his resignation, because he was convinced, from what he had seen, heard, and read, that he had ceased to be a source of strength to the Government, but rather a source of difficulty and cause of embarrassment to them. He denied that he had dealt unkindly with the House, reiterated his former declarations of disbelief in the complicity of M. Mazzini in the late conspiracy against the Emperor of the French, described the nature of his relations with Campanella, Massarenti, and other Italian revolutionists, and indignantly repudiated any cognisance of the criminal designs or proceedings of those persons. With regard to the extracts from private letters emanating from members of his family read by the Procureur-General at the trial of Mazzini in France, there was, he said, no evidence whatever of their accuracy; but at the same time he maintained that they referred to private matters only, and had no reference whatever to the criminal intentions of third parties.

Lord PALMERSTON, having paid an eloquent tribute to the public services of Mr. Stansfeld, expressed the regret which he felt at the loss of a colleague whose ability, unwearied industry, perfect truthfulness, and unwavering integrity had endeared him to all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. With regard to the aspersions which had been so basely thrown out against his hon. friend, he repudiated them with disdain, and he believed that Mr. Stansfeld appreciated as highly as any one could do the importance of maintaining cordial and intimate relations with that great Power over whom Providence had called the Emperor to rule.

The motion for the adjournment of the House was then withdrawn, and the subject dropped.

THE POST OFFICE.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, Mr. R. LONG moved for a Select Committee on the Post Office, with an especial view to the improvement of existing arrangements for the transmission of mails to the provincial districts.

After a short discussion, in the course of which Mr. PEEL and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, but promised, on behalf of the Post Office, that special cases should meet with special attention, the motion was negatived without a division.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates. On the vote for naval stores,

Mr. C. BERKELEY called attention to the number of ships which had been removed from the effective list of the Navy since the 1st of February, 1853.

A general discussion followed on the state of the Navy.

Mr. CORRY considered our fleet of twenty-five armour-plated ships altogether insufficient. The French fleet consisted of forty-three iron-plated vessels.

Mr. LINDSAY contended that it was a waste of money to repair wooden ships, and urged the employment of private yards for the building of vessels for the Navy.

Lord C. PAGET said the accounts of the dockyards were now in a complete state. With respect to the French navy, he believed it would number twenty-seven iron-clad vessels, with some small gun-boats.

The vote was agreed to, as were several others. One vote as to the docks at Malta is postponed, and Lord C. Paget intimated that he should have to ask for a supplemental vote for the conveyance of troops to New Zealand.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5.
HOUSE OF LORDS.
METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS.

The Earl of DERBY presented a petition in reference to the demolition of houses to make room for railways coming into the metropolis. The petition

suggested that the railway companies should run morning and evening trains for a certain distance from London at a penny per day for each person. The noble Earl said he understood that the London, Chatham, and Dover Company had offered to run such trains to a distance of not exceeding ten miles from London at a charge for each person of 1s. per week. He thought such an arrangement would meet the requirements of the working classes.

Earl GRANVILLE said he thought the suggestion a good one, and it should receive the attention of Government.

THE FEDERAL ENLISTMENTS AT CORK.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE called attention to the case of the men who had joined the United States vessel of war, the Kearsage, at Cork, and remarked that the statement of her Captain, that he was not aware of the men being on board, was flatly contradicted by the depositions of the men themselves.

Earl RUSSELL said that since the matter was last mentioned in the house he had directed the attention of Mr. Adams, the American Minister, to the subject, and in reply that gentleman had informed him that in the month of November he received instructions from his Government to the effect that any officer in the service of the United States who was instrumental in violating the Foreign Enlistment Act should at once be dismissed. He also said that he would refer the case of the Kearsage to the authorities at Washington.

BRITISH CONSULS IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, in moving for the correspondence with the Government of the Confederate States relative to the removal of British Consuls from their territory, complained that the facts of the several cases had not been fairly represented by the Government, and that in some instances the Consuls had been removed owing to the representations of the Federal Government, and had not been driven out, as insinuated, for their conduct in opposing the forcible enlistment of British subjects in the Confederate army, although he believed the interference of some of these functionaries had been intolerable. After some explanation by Earl RUSSELL, the motion was agreed to.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LISBURN ELECTION COMMITTEE.

Mr. ADAIR brought up a report from the Lisburn Election Committee to the effect that they had met, and, owing to no leave of absence having been granted to Mr. Stirling, had adjourned until that day.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL pointed out that the House had not formally before it the question of the legality of the adjournment of the Committee from the 22nd of March to that day. He therefore proposed that the House should pass a resolution excusing Mr. Stirling for his non-attendance on the 22nd of March. The Committee would then meet to-day, when the question of the legality of their adjournment would no doubt be raised by one or other of the parties, and they could then report the matter to the House for its decision.

After some discussion, this suggestion was agreed to.

EXEMPTION OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY FROM LOCAL RATES.

Alderman SALOMONS directed attention to the exemption from local taxation now claimed on account of property in the occupation of Government departments, especially in the borough of Greenwich, and moved that all lands and buildings used and occupied for public purposes should be assessed to local rates, and pay rates accordingly.

The motion was opposed by Mr. F. Peel and the Chancellor of the Exchequer; and, upon a division, was negatived by 52 to 30.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Chain Cables and Anchors Bill passed through Committee, after some discussion.

Mr. LOCKE moved the second reading of the Jersey Court Bill, the object of which was to amend the present system of the Royal Court of Jersey, where at present twelve jurats, who were not legally educated persons, had the power of deciding all questions of law arising in the island. After a short debate, the second reading was agreed to.

The Registration of County Voters (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

The Union Relief Aid Acts Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for Lancaster, in the room of Mr. Garnett, resigned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SONDERBURG.

The Earl of SHAPESBURY called the attention of Earl Russell to the telegram stating that Sonderburg had been bombarded without previous notice having been given. He could not say that the statement was true, he hoped that it was not; but, if true, he considered it “one of the most cruel, one of the most outrageous acts ever perpetrated, not only in civilised, but in uncivilised warfare.” He trusted that if such an act were likely to be repeated the British fleet would be at once dispatched to put a stop to such “cowardly and most terrible atrocities.”

Earl RUSSELL said he had telegraphed to Sir Andrew Buchanan asking for information respecting the statement. A reply had not yet come. He could not give an opinion upon the matter until he knew the real facts.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUDGET.

The House having gone into Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose, amid considerable cheering, to bring forward his annual statement of the financial condition of the country. He commenced by observing that the financial year had been ushered in by unusual distress in Ireland and in the manufacturing districts, but that distress had now greatly diminished. The estimated expenditure of the past financial year was £8,283,000, but the actual expenditure had only been £7,056,000, showing a balance of estimated over actual expenditure of upwards of a million sterling. The expenditure of the year 1863-4 had been £7,056,000, but the revenue had been £70,208,000, showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £3,152,000; but, deducting £60,000, expended during the year in fortifications, the actual surplus was £2,352,000. Probably the produce derived from the customs duties gave the best criteria of the condition of the people, and in almost every branch of the customs the result of the year’s revenue had been extremely satisfactory. Comparing the revenue of the country for 1863-4 with what it was in former years, the result was that, although taxes to the amount of between three and four millions had been remitted, the decrease in the revenue had really been no greater than £94,000. The diminution of taxation on the income tax, tea and sugar duties, &c., since the year 1860-1 had amounted to £6,68,000. Against that sum he found that the revenue had only decreased by £1,657,000. The effect of that was to show that the increase of revenue from the same or equivalent sources in three years had been £9,011,000, or at the rate of £1,670,000 a year. The liquidation of debt within the year had been considerably £1,000,000. Of Exchequer Bonds had been paid off, and also £1,994,000 of Exchequer Bills, and a further sum of £366,000 upon another account—making a total of £3,360,000 of capital debt which had been liquidated during the year. As regarded the huge total of the debt, it was always a matter of interest to know what the state of the capital and charge of the debt was, as compared with previous years. Some were inclined, from caprice or eccentricity, to regard the National Debt as an immaterial burden, compared with the resources and wealth of the country. He, however, was not of that opinion; for he regarded it as a very serious drawback. The total debt was £91,574,000. At the present moment; in 1853-4, when it was at its lowest point, it was £79,082,000; but during the Russian War it was raised to £808,108,00. Since that time there had therefore been a decrease in the National Debt of about £16 millions. In 1815, the debt, which then stood at the highest amount known, was £61,039,000, showing, since 1815, a decrease in the National Debt of £9,465,000. The general state of trade shows a vigour and recuperative faculty most surprising, although still subject to very serious drawbacks. In 1861 the imports were £217,485,000, including an enormous importation of corn; in 1862 they were £225,716,000; and in 1863, £248,980,000, although there had been an almost total cessation of the most important import—namely, the cotton from America. In 1861 the exports of British produce and manufactures were £25,000,000; in 1862, £24,000,000; and in 1863, £16,000,000. The exports of foreign and colonial produce were, in 1861, £4½ millions; in 1862, 42 millions; and in 1863, 50 millions. The total exports in 1861 were, therefore, £59,632,000; in 1862, £66,108,000; and in 1863, £95,970,000. The total amount of the trade of the country, taking imports and exports together, was, in 1861, £37,117,000; in 1862, £39,885,000; and, in 1863, £44,995,000. These results showed that since 1842, when Parliament first began to seriously and deliberately reform the commercial system of the country, trade had trebled. Mr. Gladstone then reviewed the effect of this policy upon particular trades; and then proceeded to state the alterations in the taxation which he proposed to make. In the first place, instead of charging a duty on corn of 1s. per quarter, it was proposed to charge 3d. per cwt., inasmuch as transactions in grain were always in weight. Next, he proposed to reduce the license of small shopkeepers for selling tea from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d., where they occupied a house under a 10/- rating outside a Parliamentary borough. This would cause a loss to the revenue of 10,000. It was also proposed to rectify a mistake in a resolution of the last Budget, by which hawkers having two horses were subject to a duty of 4d. on one and 8d. on the other. The duty would in future be 4d. on each. He also proposed to deal with the stamp duties on ecclesiastical presentations of small value. At present there was a distinction between the duty on the presentation to rectories and vicarages and to perpetual curacies, which it was proposed to abolish, and to reduce the sum of 7d. levied on a presentation to a living of 300/- a year to 5d., reducing the duty under 300/- a year gradually, according to value, and levying none where the value of the living did not exceed 50/- per annum. He proposed to reduce the stamp duty on the use of proxies at public meetings from

ed. to 1d. There would also be a reduction on letters of attorney for the receipt of dividends, on the stamp duties for settlements. At present they were not liable to stamp duty for foreign property, and he proposed to place that property, in reference to the stamp duty, on the same footing as all other property. He further proposed to legalise the universally established practice of marine reinsurance, and to extend, under magisterial control, to refreshment-house keepers and sellers of beer provisions giving the benefit of occasional licenses to those persons for the commodities in which they deal. He did not propose to interfere with the question of charities; but his opinion with regard to that subject remained precisely the same as last year. These minor changes would only entail a loss to the revenue of 10,000*l.*, and would only make a deduction from the surplus to that amount, reducing it from 2,570,000*l.* to 2,560,000*l.* With regard to the disposal of that surplus he could not forget that he had a vast number of formidable claimants for it; and, without keeping the Committee in suspense, he would state at once that, in the opinion of the Government, the first was plainly the article of sugar. A duty upon sugar was raised for the purposes of war originally, and the principal part of the duty then imposed had never been removed. He had informed the Committee that he proposed to deal with the sugar duty; but he had not yet stated how he proposed to deal with it. The question was whether it was to be touched by a uniform or by a classified duty. One plan proposed was to have two rates of duties—one on refined sugar and one on unrefined sugar. But refined and unrefined sugars were not the only categories he had to deal with, as there was also liquid sugar, under the class of molasses or molasses. The advocates of a uniform duty had not a leg to stand upon when they talked of drawing a distinction between refined and unrefined sugar. By making a distinction they would merely give a bonus to the refiner. The question, therefore, was really between a uniform duty and a classified duty, founded on the principle of the present scale. No class interest ought to govern the adjustment of the question; and the proposition he laid down was that the form of duty should be that which would least interfere with the natural course of trade, and which would least be open to the charge of offering to producers or to manufacturers a premium upon doing something different from that which they would do with no duty at all. With a uniform duty the Indian refiner would gain a great benefit over the English refiner. The Government had therefore determined to adhere to the present system of classification, and to meet the grievance of the better refiner by diminishing the intervals at the upper end of the scale, and the grievances of the lower classes by establishing a new class at a lower duty than the rest. But, in order to make the change as fair as possible to the English refiners, he would postpone the reduction of duty on foreign refined sugar for four weeks from that day; but, with this exception, he hoped that the new scale of duties would be in force on Saturday next. This scale would be—on refined sugar the duty would be reduced from 18s. 4d. to 12s. 10d., on white clay from 16s. to 11s. 8d., on brown clay from 13s. 10d. to 10s. 6d., and on Muscovado from 12s. 8d. to 9s. 4d. The duty on the new class would be 8s. 2d., and on molasses 6s. 10d. The effect of these reductions would be a loss to the revenue of 1,719,000*l.*; but, allowing for the entry of the class now excluded by the duty, the real loss would not be more than 1,358,000*l.*, which would reduce his surplus, as stated above, to 1,230,000*l.* The next claim for reduction was that of malt. It involved a revenue of nearly six millions, and the reduction by one half would entail a loss of duty twice as great as that entailed by the reduction of the sugar duty, as just proposed. It was a very convenient assertion to say that a reduction of one half would be made up by the increase of consumption; but it was thirty-four years since the beer duty was abolished, and that was equivalent to a reduction of half the malt duty; but in spite of that lapse of time there was still a gap of one million and three-quarters which had not yet been made up by the recovery of the malt duty. He would not deny that the malt duty had recently become a subject of great political importance, but he solemnly warned the hon. members for Herts and the West Riding not to take it up seriously, although, no doubt, they would handle it with great ability. He would only mention one fact. The loss of the malt duty must be made good by the general taxation of the kingdom—that was to say, they must increase the taxation of Ireland and Scotland for the sole benefit of England. Taking all the facts of the case into consideration, the Government had determined to propose no change in the malt duty. He next came to the income tax, which was so associated with the strength and wealth of the country, and so intimately connected with moral and social questions far transcending the financial merits of the tax. The Government asked the House to adopt no general conclusion on the principle of the income tax; nor did they propose to pledge themselves in any way with respect to the expediency of an income tax as a permanent source of revenue. What they would do would be to adopt the policy of reducing it, as circumstances permitted, to its legal minimum of 5*d.*; that would be done by two successive reductions of 1*d.*, and he proposed to take the first of those steps and reduce it at once by 1*d.*, leaving it at 6*d.* in the pound. The immediate loss would be 800,000*l.*, and the ultimate reduction of the revenue 1,200,000*l.* This would reduce the present surplus to 430,000*l.* And he now came to the last topic upon which he had to touch—that was the duty upon fire insurance. He must say that it was rather in obedience to the expressed opinion of the House on that subject than from his own conviction that he made any proposal on that point. The fire insurance, however, divided itself into two heads—a duty on property and on trade; and what the Government proposed to do was to leave the present duty of 3*s.* upon fire insurances on houses and furniture, and to reduce it to 1*s.* 6*d.* in the case of stock-in-trade. The reason for drawing the distinction was because experience had taught him that, while in the case of a duty removed from trade the revenue rapidly recovered, it was not so in the case of the removal of a tax on property. The net loss upon this tax he estimated at 192,000*l.*, and after giving a general summary of the figures stated above, he concluded by stating that although the changes proposed were not so large as in some previous years, yet they were a contribution towards the accomplishment of the great purpose Parliament had taken in hand, and they were an earnest of the desire of the Government to carry forward that policy which had done so much for the strength and security of the country and for the comfort and happiness of the people.

Several hon. members having expressed their opinions on the Budget, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the resolution would not bind the House formally, and he therefore hoped that the Committee would agree to his proposals. With respect to the paper duty, he was not, when he made his statement, quite sure whether the duty on rags had been removed by the French Government, although he believed that it had been; but since then he had learned from a paper which had been laid on the table by the President of the Board of Trade that this was actually the case.

COTTON-GROWING has been introduced with success into the islands in the Bay of Panama.

COOL.—A letter from Sonderburg says:—"A Danish officer has taken on himself the mission of studying the deviations, according to distance, of the rifles of the Prussians. He goes every day to the advanced posts, provided with a glass, and makes a memorandum of his observations. The day before yesterday a German rifleman perceived this officer on the look-out at the distance of about 600 metres. The soldier, instinctively obedient to military discipline, respectfully made the salute, and then proceeded to attempt to lodge a ball in the officer's body. The latter rejoiced at the opportunity of making a fresh observation, and, whilst the soldier placed himself against a tree in order to take a steadier aim, the officer raised his glass to watch his movements. 'That is all right,' said he; 'the muzzle is just on a line with my breast—we shall see.' The trigger was pulled, and the Dane quietly wrote down, 'At the distance of about 600 yards the deviation of a ball from a rifled musket is about one metre.'"

THE YANKEES AND THE NEGRO SOLDIERS.—The prevalent feeling among the working classes in New York (and all the poor men who would be liable to the conscription if the Government had courage to enforce it) with regard to the employment of black soldiers has been expressed in an Irish song which has acquired immense popularity. It is supposed to be written by one Miles O'Reilly, a private soldier in the army of the Potowmack. Miles is altogether an imaginary personage, and is represented by his clever inventors, in a book recently published, as the typical Hibernian soldier of the war. He hits off, in a few idiomatic verses, the real feeling of the army, and of the conscriptible portion of the public, with respect to what he calls the "Naygerns." The song is sung to the Irish air of "The Lowbacked Car":—

"Some tell us 'tis a burning shame
To make the naygerns fight,
And that the thrade of being kilt
Belongs but to the white;
But as for me, upon my soul—
So liberal are we here—
I'll let Sambo be murthered instead of myself
On every day in the year.
On every day in the year, boys,
And in every hour of the day,
The right to be kilt I'll divide wid him,
And devil a word I'll say."

"In battle's wild commotion
I shouldn't at all object
If Sambo's bofy should stop a ball
That was coming for me direct.
And the prod of a Southern bagnet,
So generous are we here,
I'll resign and let Sambo take it
On every day in the year.
So hear me all boys, darlins,
Don't think I'm tipping you chaff,
The right to be kilt we'll divide wid him,
And give him the largest hal."

If the popularity of a composition such as this be any test of its accordance with the spirit of the multitude, there can be no doubt that the fighting part of New York, whether American or Irish, agree with Miles O'Reilly on the negro question.—*American Letter.*

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1864.

METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

IN the House of Lords, on Tuesday last, the Earl of Derby put forward a highly practical suggestion for future legislation as to the metropolitan railways. His Lordship presented and supported a petition from a large number of the labouring class praying that "all railway companies seeking for powers to construct railways with metropolitan termini should be compelled to run at least one train in the morning and one in the evening at a very low rate of charge." The noble Earl added that the London, Chatham, and Dover line had already intimated its intention to start such trains, at a rate not higher than a shilling a week for any distance not exceeding ten miles.

The plan thus indicated is not only a feasible measure, but one of strict justice. The proposed metropolitan railway lines have specially invaded the dwellings of the humble and industrious. They have avoided so far as possible, for obvious reasons, interference with the residences of the wealthier members of the community, who might be supposed not only to be in a position to exact a higher rate of compensation, but to make a stand, even to an Englishman's last civil extremity—a resort to litigation. The poor weekly tenant stands no chance against a railway company in a contest for possession of his tenement. He may be driven to pay a higher rent for less convenient premises, or may be shouldered away for miles from his employment without possibility of redress for the destruction of the district in which it has been his lot to dwell. Whole streets built for the accommodation of his class may be converted into lines of brick arches. His landlord alone can claim and obtain compensation more or less profitable.

But there is, in Parliamentary phrase, a "previous question" in reference to this matter. And that is, whether it be really desirable that the metropolis should be mutilated for the purpose of bringing railway travellers a few hundred yards nearer to the centres of business. Upon this point we have already expressed an opinion which appears to be shared almost universally by all except railway engineers and projectors. There is no actual necessity that trains should run into the heart of London. The aspect of our great city has already been sufficiently spoiled, the comfort and convenience of its residents sufficiently compromised, by the lines already in existence. From almost any part of London a station may be reached within the limits of a shilling cab-fare at most, whence a departure may be made for any part of the United Kingdom. As we understand it, Earl Derby's suggestion can only be applied to future lines. Why should such be permitted? If London is to remain the business capital of the country, its conversion into a nucleus of railway termini must result in such an extension as will render necessary a migration on the part of the inhabitants still farther and farther from the present centres, which the various lines will reach only to destroy.

It is only now beginning to be taken into consideration that the driving out of tenants sends them into as yet unreach'd districts where higher rents must be exacted to keep pace with the increased demand. The tendency of the demolition of a street inhabited by non-capitalists is to increase the profits of capitalists elsewhere. A low rate of railway travelling will scarcely meet the difficulty, since the dispossessed tenants will not only have to pay their fares, whatever they may be, but higher rents as well. Great and grievous injury has already been committed in this way. It is not sufficient only to ameliorate such disasters for the future. The better course will be to prevent their recurrence. We must put up with the evil, so far as it has gone; but there is no necessity for its extension upon any terms whatever; and to annex conditions to future projects is to invite, by proffered compromise, further invasions, which should be at once sternly repressed.

MR. GLADSTONE has written an interesting letter to a correspondent upon friendly societies. In this letter the right hon. gentleman professes to be a warm friend of these societies, and says he only desires to see them conducted on sound principles.

THE EMPEROR'S MEN.—"Several members of Parliament have visited Paris this Easter, amongst whom may be named Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, Mr. Pope Hennessy, Sir R. Clifton, &c., &c."—Paris correspondent of *Post*. "Certain *gobemouche* correspondents assure from Paris their respective journals in the provinces that all preliminaries have been fully arranged for the coming change of Ministry by two distinguished visitors now in this capital—the hon. member for Horsham and Mr. Disraeli's devoted henchman, M.P. for King's County; the latter has been in attendance at the Tuilleries, as we are told by these Court chroniclers."—Paris correspondent of *Globe*. [The rumour about town is that the gentlemen referred to were collecting information to be used against Mr. Stanfield in the House of Commons, and that an attack was to be made upon the Ministry through the member for Halifax, under the direct inspiration of the Emperor. Of course, Mr. Stanfield's resignation defeats the plan.]

DEATH OF MR. T. P. COOKE.—This gentleman, one of the last representatives of the old school of British actors, expired at two o'clock on Monday afternoon. Mr. T. P. Cooke was born in Marylebone on the 23rd of April, 1786; was educated at the school of the Marine Society; and, subsequently entering the Navy, served under Nelson at the bombardment of Copenhagen, for which he received a medal. His first appearance on the stage took place at the Royal Theatre, in January, 1804, and for many years he was recognised as the best theatrical type of the British seaman. His private life was blameless, and he took a warm interest in every undertaking for the benefit of the profession to which he belonged. Only a few months ago his wife died; the shock was too great for him, and it may be said that he never recovered the blow. Dying at the great age of seventy-eight years, he will be greatly lamented by all who knew him as a private friend, and there are few old playgoers who will read the tidings of his death without emotion.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES have left London for Sandringham. His Royal Highness has consented that a new life-boat, to be stationed at Berwick-on-Tweed, shall be called the "Albert Victor," after the infant Prince.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL, it is said, intends to visit France shortly.

DUKE ERNEST OF SAXE-COBURG has offered to resume his service as General in the Prussian army now operating in Denmark, but the offer has not been accepted at Berlin.

DR. ARNOLD, of New College, Oxford, has composed a new oratorio, entitled "Ahab," which has been performed at Exeter Hall by the National Choral Society.

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT has accepted the mediation of Portugal in its dispute with England.

HER MAJESTY'S GUN-BOAT MAGPIE went ashore in Ballykillye, in the county of Clare, on Sunday morning.

THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT are about to assimilate their weights and measures to those of France.

THE EXPENSES attending the marriage of the Prince of Wales, it appears from recent returns, amount to £24,855.

A REFORM CONGRESS is to be held in Manchester on the 19th and 20th inst.

THE PEKIN, one of the gun-boats of Captain Sherrard Osborn's expedition, arrived at Plymouth on Saturday.

THE NEW ITALIAN IRON-CLAD FRIGATE, RE D'ITALIA, built at New York, arrived at Gibraltar on the 28th ult., having performed the passage in twenty-one days.

THE FEDERAL NAVY is so short of seamen that it is proposed to send 12,000 soldiers on board the ships.

THERE IS A SHOT IN PARIS which supplies a new shirt to any customer who leaves his dirty one and pays ten sous to boot.

THERE WAS A MAIDEN SESSIONS AT BERWICK last week, and the Sheriff had the pleasing duty of presenting the Recorder with an additional pair of white gloves.

DR. WORDSWORTH, Bishop of St. Andrew's, has written a volume on Shakespeare's knowledge and use of the Scriptures, proved by parallel passages and biblical citations made by the poet.

THE DUBLIN CORPORATION have decided not to erect the statue of the late Prince Consort on College-green, against which a great deal of feeling was lately exhibited. A site on Leinster-green is likely to be chosen.

DR. LIVINGSTONE is stated in letters from the Cape to be well, and not dead, as was reported.

A COMMITTEE has been organised at Penzance with the object of raising a monument to the memory of the celebrated chemist Sir Humphry Davy.

MR. FROUD HAS GONE TO SPAIN, and will devote six weeks to the further investigation of the Siamese manuscripts, previously to publishing the third volume of his "History of Queen Elizabeth."

ELIZABETH GARRETT passed her examination at Apothecaries' Hall last week, having complied with all the requirements of the apothecaries' act. Miss Garrett is the first female who has ever passed such an examination.

TWO WOMEN HAVE BEEN FLOGGED IN GALICIA FOR POLITICAL OFFENCES—one, a girl of twenty years of age, who was guilty of the heinous crime of behaving disrespectfully to a policeman, received ten blows with a birch rod.

THE BODIES of sufferers by the Sheffield catastrophe still continue to be found as the debris deposited by the flood is cleared away.

TWO AUSTRIAN FRIGATES and a gun-boat have sailed from Lisbon for the Baltic.

MRS. LOCKE HAS CONVEYED TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF BARNESLEY an estate to be styled "Locke Park," and has promised to invest £1000, in order that the interest of that sum may be employed in maintaining the park for public use.

A CAPE OF GOOD HOPE LINE OF SHIPS is about to be established to run from Falmouth. Both Plymouth and Bristol are putting in claims against Falmouth for the packet station that is stated to be about to be removed from Southampton.

SOME MONEY BELONGING TO GARIBALDI was seized a few days ago in the hands of his bankers in Turin, under the impression that it belonged to a fund for purchasing the million of muck-kets the General some time ago asked for. The money has since been restored, as it appeared to be private property.

ONE METHOD OF PUNISHING MUTINIOUS SOLDIERS in the camp of the Potomac is to strip the men to the waist and lay them, spread-eagle fashion, on the ground, exposed to the full rays of the sun.

EIGHTY IMMENSE GUNS are, it is said, about to be manufactured at M. Krupp's foundry (in Prussia), which will be mounted at Cronstadt. They will carry a ball of 200 lb. weight, to perforate a four-inch plate at three miles.

OF THE 3,062,294 persons in Scotland on the day in which the census was taken in 1861 the females exceeded the males by 162,598. On that night 41,873 husbands were living with their wives; but 27,939 had not their wives with them, and 41,080 wives had not their husbands at home.

JULIA CLARK, wife of a labouring man of Deddington, Oxon, on the 15th ult. became the mother of three fine boys, and her Majesty forwarded a donation of £5. The other day, Mrs. Kennaby (aged twenty-four), of Shepperton-Walk, London, was safely delivered of four fine daughters, who, together with their mother, were doing well.

ABOUT 4000 MINERS in the South Yorkshire coal district have been "locked out," the coal owners having adopted this course in consequence of the movement among the men for an advance of wages.

SEVEN IMPROVED GUN-BOATS, from the designs of Mr. Reed, are to be immediately commenced at Chatham, Portsmouth, Devonport, and Woolwich dockyards. They are to be called steam-launches, and are to be completed with as much dispatch as the resources of the several dockyards will permit.

A PROJECT TO CONSTRUCT A BRIDGE over the Straits of Messina, to unite Sicily with the mainland, is talked of in Italy. The bridge proposed would be a suspension one, on a new system, the chains being of cast steel, and strong enough to support the weight of several railway trains.

THE DECREE OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT in the case of Saxon, not only orders the ship and cargo to be restored to the owners, but recommends that Lieutenant Donovan, who shot Mr. Grey, should be tried by court-martial for the murder. The questions of compensation to the widow and to the owners of the vessel have been reserved.

A JUDGE applied to President Lincoln for a pass to see his brother in Virginia. The President referred him to Halleck and Stanton; but the Judge informed him that they had refused his request. "Well, then," said old Abe, with a smile of good humour, "I can do nothing; for you must know that I have very little influence with this Administration."

WE HAVE CONTRADICTORY REPORTS of the position of the Archduke Maximilian. One is that the obstacles in the way of his assuming the Mexican throne have been removed; another is, that fresh difficulties have arisen, and that the departure of his Imperial Highness is again delayed.

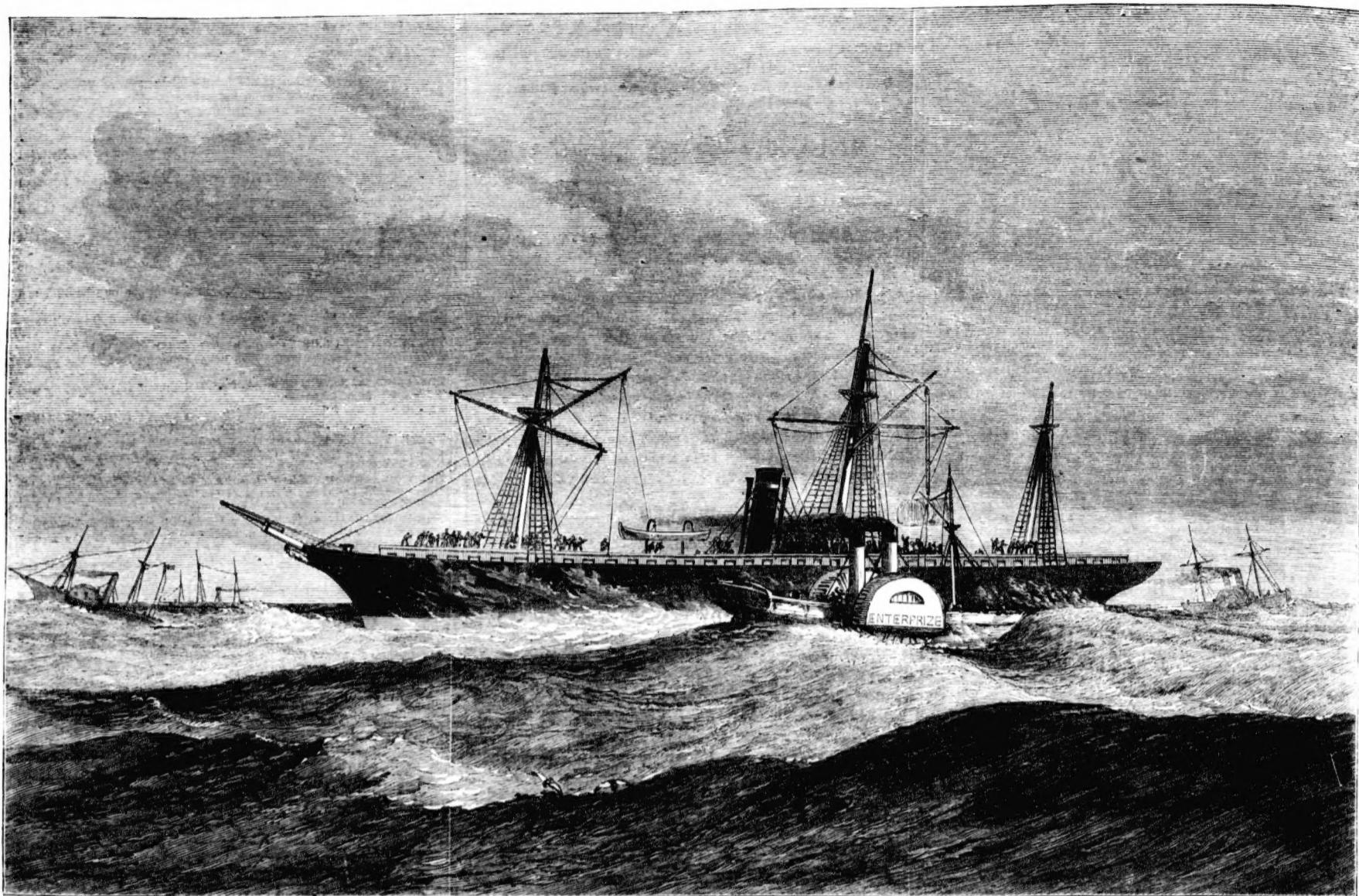
THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY have organised a special service of trains between London and Stratford-on-Avon and all other stations on their line in connection with the Shakspearean festival, and by which return-tickets to Stratford-on-Avon issued on April 22 will be available until May 2, including third-class trains.

A PARLIAMENTARY RETURN of the gold and silver imported into and exported from each Presidency of India states that in the year 1863 the gold and silver imported exceeded the export by no less than £19,367,764. In the last eight years this excess of import over export in India has reached the enormous value of £109,652,917. Bullion has been coined in India in the present century to an amount considerably exceeding £200,000,000.

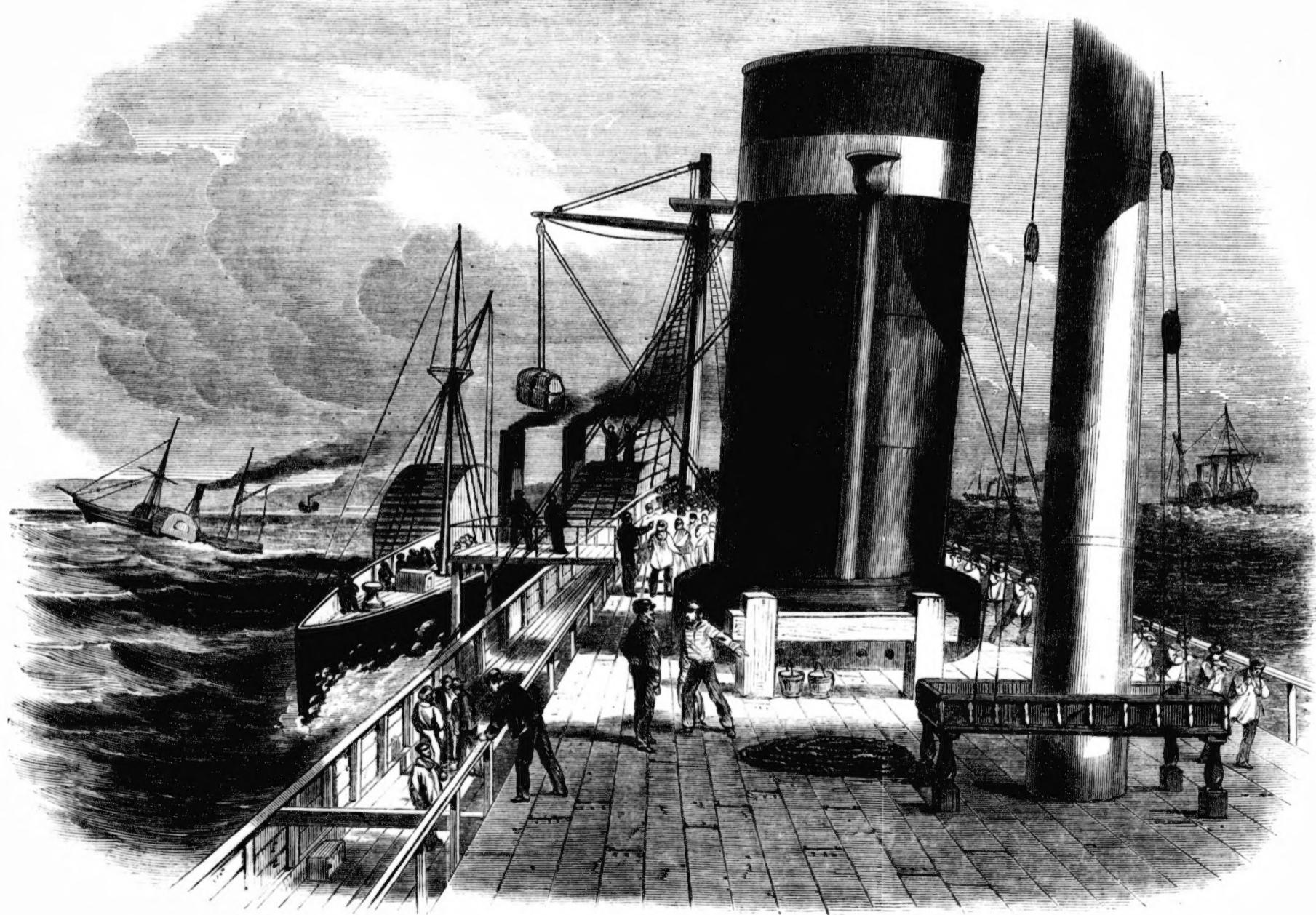
A MAN, brought a few days since to trial in France for the murder of his wife and mother-in-law, put in quite a new pica. "Remember, MM. les Jurés," said the man, who defended himself, "that I am fifty years old, was married very early, and my wife's mother has never left us; and yet I have never done this before." The circumstances were not considered sufficiently "extenuating," and the jury found the prisoner guilty.

THE NUMBER OF EGGS employed in Paris alone in clarifying wines is about 4,500,000. By this means a wholesome and nourishing article of food is taken away from public consumption, and its price considerably enhanced. To avoid this certain kinds of powders are now beginning to be employed, by which wines may be clarified with equal facility, and at a smaller expense.

MR. ROBSON AT EDINBURGH.—We are sorry to note that on Saturday night Mr. Robson, in playing the part of the burlesque Shylock, was several times hissed. In one scene he had to simulate intoxication, and this he did with admirable drollery and fidelity. Certain stupid persons in the gallery and pit, however, evidently incapable of appreciating the humour of the performance, hissed him, under the impression that the intoxication was not feigned but real. Mr. Robson rebuked these dullards in suitable language, saying, among other things, that, did they know he was suffering from ill-health, they would pity rather than hiss him. We sympathise most heartily with Mr. Robson, who has spent his whole life, even to the detriment of his health, in the service of the public, from whom he deserves the warmest gratitude for the many hours of keen enjoyment which he has afforded them. We hope that an Edinburgh theatre will never again be disgraced by such a humiliating exhibition of offensive ignorance as that displayed by an inferior section of the audience at the Theatre Royal on Saturday. Mr. Robson's performances during the past fortnight have been a source of extreme pleasure to all who have witnessed them, and we trust that it will not be long before he returns to us with renewed health and vigour, to gratify those who can appreciate him and to silence the blockheads who cannot.—*Edinburgh Courant*.



THE STEAM-SHIP CITY OF NEW YORK AGROUND ON DAUNT'S ROCK, OUTSIDE CORK HARBOUR: DISCHARGING THE CARGO.

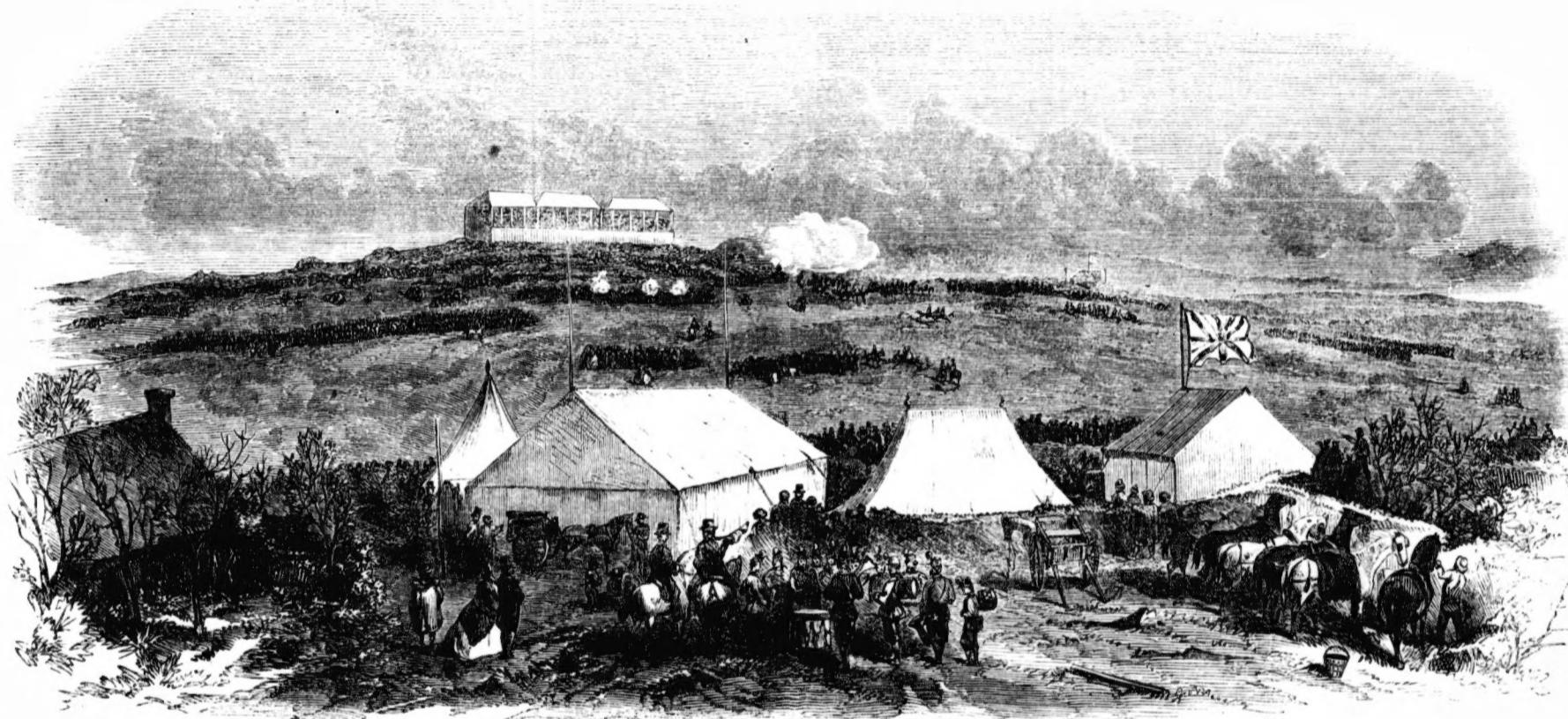


HURRICANE DECK OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK - (FROM SKETCHES BY R. L. STOFORD)

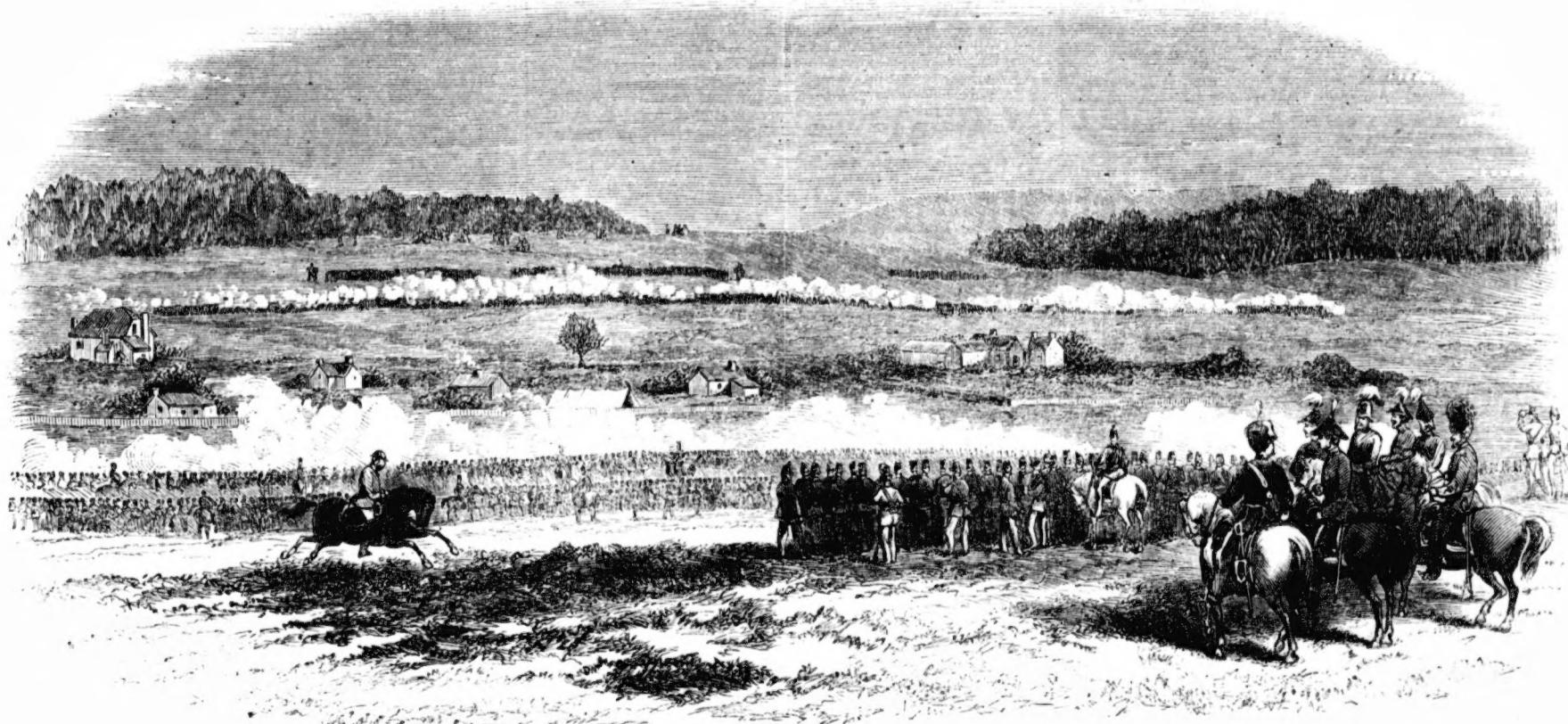
THE VOLUNTEER FIELD-DAY AT BLACKHEATH, NEAR GUILDFORD.



POSITION OF THE ENEMY AS SEEN FROM THE VALLEY IN FRONT OF THE GRAND STAND.



VIEW SHOWING THE GRAND STAND : THE CONTENDING FORCES FIRING THEIR LAST ROUNDS.



FINAL POSITION OF THE TWO LINES PREVIOUS TO THE VOLUNTEERS MARCHING PAST.

WRECK OF THE STEAM-SHIP CITY OF NEW YORK.

The steamer City of New York still remains upon Daunt's Rock, but great preparations are being made to get her off, and it is hoped the operation will be successful. A large portion of the cargo, which principally consisted of cotton, has been removed. Means for lifting the ship have been provided, divers are at work, and several powerful steam-tugs have been brought alongside. It is believed that the vessel is less seriously damaged than was at first feared.

The danger of Daunt's Rocks to vessels entering Cork Harbour, especially from the westward, is not a new one. In 1817 the frigate York, commanded by Captain Schomberg, struck upon the rock, had her rudder torn away, and narrowly escaped total wreck. Other accidents happened, and efforts have been made to have the rock either removed or properly guarded by a light-ship. Mr. Maguire, M.P., Mayor of Cork, in a letter to the *Times*, gives details of the efforts he and the Harbour Commissioners have made with this object, which efforts, unfortunately, have not been successful in time to avert the accident to the City of New York. It is to be hoped that steps will immediately be taken to obviate any similar mishap in the future. Mr. Maguire says:

So far back as last July I took occasion to impress on two members of her Majesty's Government (Lord Clarence Paget and Mr. Milner Gibson) the fact that considerable alarm had been created in the minds of the captains of the Cunard steamers in consequence of the unprotected state of Daunt's Rock, which lies in the track of vessels coming from the west, and which was then, as now, marked only by a buoy. Lord Clarence Paget informed me, and I believe quite correctly, that the master was not within the province of the Admiralty—that it belonged to the Board of Trade. I then saw Mr. Milner Gibson, and, on the part of the Cork Harbour Commissioners, introduced the subject to his notice, and informed him that such was the alarm created by the unprotected and unguarded state of the rock that captains of the Cunard steamers had on dark nights been compelled to lie off the harbour for some hours, to the necessary delay of the American mails. Thus the existence of the lurking danger was brought to the notice of members of the Government so far back as July, 1863.

The Harbour Commissioners of Cork communicated soon after with the Dublin Ballast Board on the subject, and when Sir James Dombraine and his colleagues visited Cork in the month of August, on their annual tour of inspection, an interview took place at Queenstown between the representatives of the Ballast Board and a rather numerous deputation from the Harbour Commissioners, at which I attended, and at which Mr. Beamish, member for the city, was present. On that occasion a full statement of the case was made to Sir James Dombraine and his colleagues, and the danger earnestly dwelt upon them by various members of the deputation. The demand was that the rock should be removed as soon as possible, and that, until it was removed, a light-ship should be placed in such a position as would afford most protection to shipping frequenting or calling at the harbour; and at that interview the question was treated as a national one and as one which should be so regarded by the Government, or the department to which the care of such matters belonged. It was then explained, as it has been repeatedly explained since, that Daunt's Rock lies some miles from the entrance to Cork Harbour, and is therefore altogether outside the jurisdiction and authority of the Harbour Commissioners; and, that being so, the removal of the rock, or the lighting of the rock, was a duty that properly devolved upon the Government, and the cost of which should be defrayed out of the Consolidated Fund or imposed as a charge on the Mercantile Marine Fund. The result of the interview was that the commissioners were convinced that the immediate object for which they should look was a light-ship, with a fog-bell and signal-gong for foggy weather; leaving the question of the removal of the rock for the scientific judgment of the highest professional authority.

So urgent and pressing was the danger considered that I, as Mayor of Cork, was deputed by the Harbour Commissioners to visit London, Liverpool, and Glasgow with the view of interesting the representatives of the shipping and mercantile communities of these three ports in the subject, and inducing them to aid in accomplishing an object which concerned them quite as much as it did the citizens of Cork. I was also commissioned to lay before the Board of Trade memorials from the merchants and shipowners, and the Harbour Commissioners and the Corporation of Cork. These memorials were fortified by memorials from various public bodies and corporations in the places visited by me, and these fully represented the great shipping and mercantile interests of the United Kingdom.

On the 9th of October Sir James Dombraine, Captain Roberts, and Mr. Thomas Bewley—the visiting committee of the Ballast Board—held an official inquiry at Cork, in the board-room of the Harbour Commissioners, who were present in great number. I had just received a letter from Mr. Grerson, the local agent of the Cunard Company, in which letter the writer stated that "Daunt's Rock was an object of constant apprehension to their captains." This letter I read for the visiting committee. Other members of the board mentioned cases of accidents having occurred from time to time on the rock, which accidents had been attended with more or less loss and injury to property. Sir James stated as the result of his inquiry—during which much testimony was afforded by captains of vessels, harbour-masters, and others connected with the shipping interest—that he and his colleagues would report in favour of a light-ship, which should be placed about a mile off the rock; and that they would also recommend that a full and accurate survey of the rock should be made, so that its extent, formation, and nature should be ascertained, with a view, of course, to its ultimate removal.

So far all was well. The danger was admitted to exist, and a remedy was adopted or consented to. But what will you say when you learn that while a great and general evil was about to be provided against it was to be at the sole expense of the harbour of Cork? The consent and its accompanying conditions were made known to the Harbour Commissioners in the end of the month of December; these conditions being that the light-ship should be sustained by a tax on the shipping entering or calling at Cork Harbour. The estimated cost of this annual maintenance was set down at £1300, no mean addition to the burdens of an Irish port. The Harbour Commissioners refused to consent to the imposition upon local shipping of a tax—which—the object to be obtained being one of national and imperial importance—ought to be defrayed out of the Mercantile Marine Fund.

About a month since I had two interviews with the President of the Board of Trade, at one of which the Assistant Secretary of the Marine Department was present, in which I urged again upon Mr. Milner Gibson the grave and serious importance of the subject, and the unfairness of placing the entire burden of the expense upon Cork. I then stated that the Harbour Commissioners had exempted all Transatlantic vessels carrying mails from the ordinary dues for a period of years yet unexpired; that they had exhibited the same liberality to many Transatlantic vessels not mail carriers; and that in their harbour, or within the bounds of their jurisdiction, they had provided every necessary protection for shipping, such as buoys, beacons, and lights, there being no fewer than five lights from the entrance of the harbour at Roche's Point to Blackrock, which is within less than three miles of the Custom House, at Cork. Mr. Gibson did seem somewhat impressed with the importance of the case, and also appeared, as I thought, to feel the injustice of compelling Cork to pay for what was properly belonging to the country at large. I was then told that the Ballast Board and the Trinity Board would again be communicated with on the subject.

And there the question stood, when the oft-urged apprehensions of the captains of the Cunard Company and of the Cork Harbour Commissioners were fearfully realised by the disaster to the City of New York. Had the vessel struck less heavily on Daunt's Rock and then got off, she would, in all human probability, have gone down with more than 300 souls on board; for the water all round the rock is of considerable depth, ranging from eight to twelve fathoms. Fortunately, no life was lost, and the mails and specie were safely landed; but the disaster which has occurred is sufficiently great and deplorable, without loss of life, to render it a matter of imperial interest to guard against the occurrence of a similar calamity.

Our Engravings represent the hurricane deck of the City of New York and the operation of discharging cargo from the ship while aground upon the rock.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

We this week publish some Engravings illustrative of the late volunteer field-day at Blackheath, full descriptive details of which appeared in our last week's Number. An inquest has been held on the body of the unfortunate gentleman, the Rev. Mr. Baile, who was shot with a portion of a ramrod, and has been adjourned in order that the volunteer who fired the ramrod should be produced. We regret to learn that the accidents recorded by us last week did not by any means represent the whole casualties of the day, nearly all of which, however, were caused by the public improperly crowding in between the different corps engaged in the evolutions. The good sense of the public will, we hope, induce them to avoid such foolish conduct on future occasions.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S TOILET.—The following is an extract from a letter, dated Quebec, March 24:—"A friend of mine has just returned from Washington, where he called at White House with a note from Lord Lyons. He was introduced while the President was being shaved. Abraham had a white cloth under his chin, and seemed to enjoy conversation in that position quite as much as in any other. Several other gentlemen came in and out, all being introduced and favoured with a little chat, seasoned every now and then with a joke."

THE NEW YORK OBSERVER suggests (through a correspondent) the introduction of invalid pews in churches, in which the feeble might recline without attracting notice.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

It was a favourite idea with the quidnuncs up to the very day that Parliament resumed its sittings that the Conservatives intended to close their ranks, and, on the subject of the Stanfield-Mazzini affair, do battle with the Government; and, further, that in all probability the Government would have been defeated. I have inquired diligently, and listened attentively to my Dionysius's ear, but cannot learn that there has been any conspiracy of this sort afoot. But this I think might have occurred. It is well known that that active, bustling, clever agent of the Ultramontanists, Mr. Pope Hennessy, and Lord Henry Lennox, who expects to be rewarded in the next Derby Ministry, and naturally wishes to hasten a crisis which may give him something to do, or at least something to take, are in Paris getting up fresh evidence against Signor Mazzini and his enthusiastic friend, and if that had not happened which has happened, these two, joined with others, "the hungriest of the hungry for office," to use Mr. Bright's happy phrase, would have brought the Stanfield-Mazzini affair again before the House; and would, by the force of natural cohesion, have got together a large number of allies, and presented a formidable array, both in the house and in the lobby. But I do not believe that the chiefs of the party were anxious for this move, and still less do I believe that it would have led to victory. Nor is Mr. Stanfield's resignation any proof that the Government believed in a general Conservative conspiracy, or that they doubted the result of a division. Still, the Government would not court—on the contrary, would much rather avoid—such a collision. Mr. Stanfield saw all this, and hence it was, and also because his position had become personally irksome, that he suddenly determined to resign his post; and everybody says that he has done the right thing, acted as a high-minded man ought to do, and that ultimately he will not lose but gain by the step which he has taken. Mr. Bernal Osborne said that if Mr. Stanfield were to resign he would soon be sent for again, and this is the belief of men of all sides. This affair will blow over. Passion, as its way is, will give place to reason; that sense of justice and love of fairplay which ultimately always prevails amongst English gentlemen will override party animosity, and Mr. Stanfield, who has confessedly shown remarkable administrative talents, will be again called to, and allowed to take, office without hindrance, if he be minded so to do; perhaps not this year, nor next; perhaps not until the Conservatives shall again be allowed to try their hands at governing the country. But let him bide his time, and his way will as surely open up again as anything is sure in this turbulent and uncertain world.

Mr. Cardwell goes to the Colonial Office, and thus we get another Chief Secretary of State in the House of Commons. This change will hardly be pleasant to Mr. Chichester Fortescue, the Under-Secretary; but it is a good arrangement, for it is scarcely constitutional that so many of the chief officers of State should be in the House of Lords. Indeed, there has not unfrequently been a good deal of grumbling in the house that so many of the principal departments—the War Office, the Colonies, the Foreign Office—were represented only by under-secretaries. Mr. Cardwell has never been in the Colonial Office before. He has been Secretary for the Treasury, President of the Board of Trade, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Chancellor of the Duchy; but like all the Peelites, Mr. Cardwell is capable of taking any post. He is not a brilliant man, but he is something better—viz., an indomitable worker and able administrator. Is it generally known—perhaps not—that three of our present Cabinet Ministers took "double firs" at Oxford—to wit, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Charles Wood, and Mr. Cardwell? and that Sir George Grey, Mr. Lowe, and Sir Roundell Palmer took first class in classics? The Lord Chancellor, I see, too, was first class in classics; and all these are Oxford men. This is a curious fact, and one which Oxford ought to be proud of.

The Stratford-upon-Avon Shakespearean Tercentenary Committee are again in difficulties. The carriage of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, once more stops the way. Mr. Fechter has peremptorily refused to take any part himself, or to permit any of the Lyceum company to take any part, in the festival performances. One of the most important, if not the most important, member of the Stratford committee has been in London for the last few days, but has been unable to obtain an audience with Mr. Fechter. Tickets have already been sold for the "Hamlet" performance. The Stratford committee is in an awkward fix, and threatens legal proceedings. If the case should go into a court of law, will it not be an admirable opportunity for the gentlemen of the horseshoe wigs to air their Shakespearean scholarship and go in for apt quotations? I am told that in lieu of "Hamlet" the Princess's company is to play the "Comedy of Errors"! How appropriate the title to the whole affair!

A correspondence between Mr. Henry Kingsley for the Stratford Committee and Mr. H. Barnett for Mr. Fechter has been published, which throws little light on the cause of quarrel, or supposed cause of quarrel. It is understood, however, that a resolution of the entertainments' committee, agreed to on the 22nd of February, and confirmed by the general committee on the 2nd of March, caused Mr. Fechter to adopt the course he has done. The resolution referred to is in these terms:—"That Mr. Bellow be requested not to make any more arrangements on behalf of the committee until further communicated with." Well, Mr. Bellow is believed to have brought about the Phelps imbroglio, for which the above resolution is an indirect censure; Mr. Bellow is a great friend of Mr. Fechter; and Mr. Fechter has no doubt decided as he has in consequence of the supposed slight put upon his friend by the committee's resolution. The result is that neither Mr. Phelps nor Mr. Fechter is to appear in the festival performances, and that no tragedy can be produced. Both these gentlemen owe something to themselves; but I would suggest to them that they also owe something to Shakespeare and something to the people of this country. A sense of loyalty should induce them to throw aside personal considerations. The committee or its agents may have blundered, but that is no reason why the Stratford festival should lose one item from its programme, and that item the most important, for how can a series of Shakespearean performances be complete without a Shakespearean tragedy? Such is the "fix" in which the committee is now placed: verily, a case of playing "Hamlet" with the part of Hamlet left out.

There is great fun to be got out of reading playbills, not merely from the bad English or worse composition, but from their extraordinary eccentricities. I read, the other day, that a London theatre possessed a lessee, two responsible manageresses, and a directress. Now, what does all that mean? Who's who? If a man had business with the theatre, to which of these functionaries should he apply? To the lessee? to the responsible manageresses? and to which of them? for there are two; or to the directress? Supposing that these heads of the house each keep a secretary. There is the lessee's secretary, the responsible manageresses' secretaries, and the directress's secretary. Let us carry the notion out. Suppose each secretary had a deputy, there would be the lessee's secretary's deputy, the responsible manageresses' secretaries' deputies, and the directress's secretary's deputy. If those deputies had each a friend, there would be the lessee's secretary's deputy's friend, the responsible manageresses' secretaries' deputies' friends, and the directress's secretary's deputy's friend, and so on, to the verge of madness, on the arithmetical principle of the problem of the multiplication of the nails in the horse's shoes, or the metrical arrangements of the ballad of "The House that Jack Built."

The domestic servant question has again turned up in one or two of the daily papers. A man, who signs himself "West-end," has written to the *Times* to complain that masters and mistresses, as a rule, are a bad lot. "West-end" concludes his letter by saying, "Should you think this worth a place in the *Times*, perhaps you may insert it; if you think your waste-paper basket the best place for it, throw it thither; you will not drive me to a penny paper!" This is grand! "West-end" must be a retired butler at the very lowest. Do you remember that wonderful "Plush Paper" of Thackeray's, describing the dinner at which Dr. Ignatius Loyola and Sir Edward Bullwigg Lytton Bullwigg assisted, and

in which "James" implores his master not to discharge him, as he infinitely prefers the duties of a gentleman's footman, with the run of the kitchen, to the precarious livelihood offered by the "pursuit of literature"? Funny enough, some of the daily penny papers have actually taken affront at "West-end's" letter, and have written sarcastic leaders on the subject. There must be a halo of authority, a dignity, in the sum of threepence that drives men to madness when they know that their own lucubrations are purchasable for the one humble copper. There are silver threepenny pieces; why not silver pennies? Then all would be well.

It is not true that the Upper Ten Thousand ill-treat their servants. *Noblesse oblige!* Do butlers, as a body, look unhappy? Are they not pugnacious of breast, portly of stomach, gravy-like of eye, and purply of complexion? Have they not always several chins? As they hand claret-jugs to pale and crisp young Ensigns, with daily incomes of five-and-sixpence, eked out by small contributions from their families, or pour out port to disappointed and dyspeptic Majors, men whose first commissions were dated six-and-thirty years ago, and who have seen service—who has the best of it? The footman's chances are better than the shopman's or the intelligent non-commissioned officer's. The valet is his master's master, and the lady's maid often rules her mistress arbitrarily. That servants as a class are wronged may be true, but not the servants of Swallowfield. May the shadows of their calves and their cocked hats be never the less!

I was at the second conversazione of the Langham Sketching Club, last Saturday. It was very crowded, and there were several of the pictures for the coming Academy to be seen. There were two capital paintings of Leader—one a mountain lake, the other a yew-shaded churchyard. Leslie had a nice little picture of a pretty girl wreathing her lover's helmet, and Poynter a fine figure of one of Pharaoh's sentinels. Fitzgerald showed a good bit of colouring—a soldier looking down from the rising ground on a skirmish; and the younger Cattermole exhibited a picture of soldiers dragging up cannon that reminded one of some of Gilbert's best points. Rossiter's "Wigtown Martyr" and Morten's St. Bartholomew episodes we shall see again in Trafalgar-square shortly. There were some nice views of Illyes, Mogford, and Mole, and a delightful glimpse of a plantation by Johnson. But perhaps one of the things that pleased me most was a scene from "As You Like It," by Miss M. E. Edwards, a young lady whose illustrations in *London Society* have attracted some considerable attention. The evening passed very agreeably, and when I say that one of the guests was Mr. Arthur Sketchley, "by the kind permission of Mr. Brown," it will perhaps account for the roars of laughter which at one part of the evening must have been distinctly audible in Langham-place.

During this, the first week of April, it occurred to me to consult "Zadkiel's Almanack," in order to see how far his predictions for the past month had been verified or otherwise. Here they are:

I foresee once more a mighty struggle for reform. There will be an end to the wretched and destructive apathy of the people, which has allowed the most miserable Parliament that has sat for many years to pass Acts for branding deserters, as a farmer brands a hog; flogging offenders with a cat-o'-nine-tails; seizing men upon the highway on suspicion of poaching; and attempting to deny the public the plainest of all social rights—that of seeking refreshment in the only place where it can be had during one entire day in seven.

Now for the fulfilment. The foreseen "mighty struggle for reform" has not yet been recorded. The "branding of deserters" has been continued by the vote of the House of Commons; "flogging offenders" has been carried into effect in numerous instances under a recent Act; "seizing men upon the highway on suspicion of poaching" is universal in the rural districts; and attempting to close the taverns on Sundays has been again threatened by Puritan Somes and his sect. There is not a single item of my extract which has not been directly controverted by events. "Zadkiel" has nothing about the Sheffield inundation, though we are told that "the ex-King of Naples meets some sudden trouble by Mars men, or may receive an injury to his leg, from Mars being on his ascendant in Aquarius." The fulfilment of this prophecy is that Garibaldi (Mars) comes across the sea (Aquarius) to have his leg healed by Professor Ferguson. The 1st of April, I find, was a good day to deal with lawyers. I missed that opportunity.

A morning contemporary gave us, the other day, some lovely bits of penny-a-lining about Garibaldi. Take two specimens:—"Although it relates to an article of apparel, it may be interesting to state that Garibaldi has presented to Mr. Alderman Perkiss the silk scarf which he wore yesterday." That "although" is in the true *linnum denario scribere vein*. "Yesterday an elderly but respectable man was brought before," &c.; or, "The defendant is a tall, thin, yellow-complexioned man," &c. But one contemporary excelled itself in the following poetic compliment to the crowd in the Southampton Townhall:—"The body of the hall was densely packed with the citizens, who seemed as if they exhaled the hot breath of Vulcan's forge." It must have taken how much mental hammering and bellows-blowing to get all this out of a crowded room?

Last week I was made, by an oversight, to attribute to the British Workman periodical an agitation which I meant to attribute to the British Workman class. The two words got put into italics by an accident.

THE QUEEN.—An erroneous idea seems generally to prevail, and has lately found frequent expression in the newspapers, that the Queen is about to resume the place in society which she occupied before her great affliction; that is, that she is about again to hold Levées and Drawing-rooms in person, and to appear as before at Court balls, concerts, &c. This idea cannot be too explicitly contradicted. The Queen heartily appreciates the desire of her subjects to see her, and whatever she can do to gratify them in this loyal and affectionate wish she will do. Whenever any real object is to be attained by her appearing on public occasions, any national interest to be promoted, or anything to be encouraged which is for the good of her people, her Majesty will not shrink, as she has not shrank, from any personal sacrifice or exertion, however painful. But there are other and higher duties than those of mere representation which are now thrown upon the Queen, alone and unassisted—duties which she cannot neglect without injury to the public service, which weigh unceasingly upon her, overwhelming her with work and anxiety. The Queen has laboured conscientiously to discharge these duties till her health and strength, already shaken by the utter and ever-abiding desolation which has taken the place of her former happiness, have been seriously impaired. To call upon her to undergo, in addition, the fatigues of those mere state ceremonies which can be equally well performed by other members of her family is to ask her to run the risk of entirely disabling herself for the discharge of those other duties which cannot be neglected without serious injury to the public interests. The Queen will, however, do what she can—in the manner least trying to her health, strength, and spirits—to meet the loyal wishes of her subjects, to afford that support and countenance to society, and to give that encouragement to trade which is desired of her. More the Queen cannot do; and more the kindness and good feeling of her people will surely not exact from her.—*Times*.

THE MINISTRY.—The Duke of Newcastle has been compelled by increasing ill-health to resign the seals of the Colonial Department. In compliance with the anxious desire of his colleagues, he continued until Saturday last to discharge with characteristic fidelity the duties of his office; but his constitution, enfeebled by several recent attacks of unusual severity, required absolute repose, and he has been at last induced by the exigencies of his physicians to seek that relief from labour which a less energetic mind would have claimed at a much earlier period. Mr. Cardwell, who first entered the present Government as Secretary for Ireland, which post he exchanged for the almost sinecure office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, will succeed the Duke of Newcastle as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Lord Clarendon, who first entered the Cabinet in 1840 as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, but has since held some of the highest offices of the State, having been five years Viceroy of Ireland and five years Foreign Secretary, has consented to accept the comparative humble office with which he commenced his distinguished career, and will succeed Mr. Cardwell as Chancellor of the Duchy. It is stated that the vacancy in the Admiralty consequent on the resignation of Mr. Stanfield has been filled by the Hon. C. Berkeley, M.P. for Gloucester.

THE ALEXANDRA CASE.—The decision of the House of Lords on the Alexandra appeal case was given on Wednesday. The question at issue was whether the Barons of the Court of Exchequer had power to make rules giving the Crown a right of appeal in the case. The Lord Chancellor, Lord St. Leonards, Lord Chelmsford, and Lord Kingsdown held that the Court of Exchequer had no right to make such rules. Lord Cranworth and Lord Wensleydale took the opposite view, that the Court had the power to make the rules. The majority being against the Crown, the appeal was dismissed with costs.

OUR FEUILLETON.

THE LASSO.

"If you are in Chili, and meet an enemy with a lasso in his hand" (says M. Jacques Arago, the blind traveller), "kill him or wound him dangerously. Otherwise you are lost." We are afraid we should be lost, for the lasso is as rapid as it is certain in its effects. A Chilian skilful in its use will encircle you in its boa-constrictor-like folds at a distance of twenty-five paces, and we could not hit a Chilian with pistol at twenty. The lasso-thrower, especially if he be on horseback, is the master of all quadrupeds or human beings who venture within his reach, unless the latter happen to be armed with the same weapon, when the horseman may himself be noosed and dragged to the ground. Otherwise, even while riding at full gallop, he will whip his long strip of thin elastic leather round his adversary's neck in about a tenth part of the time that it takes Mr. Calcraft, with all his expertise, to "adjust the fatal noose." In the same way the lasso-thrower will catch the jaguar by the leg, or—in a literal and not in a metaphoric sense—"take the bull by the horns."

The lasso is formed in two ways. In either case, what may be called the handle of the weapon consists of a long strip of leather, but at the extremity of this there may be either a slip-knot or a couple of bullets or stones. A victim to the slip-knot must infallibly be strangled, if the capturer only pull hard enough; but with the bullet-lasso this is not the case. The object aimed at is struck with the lasso at so many inches or feet from the extremity, according to the magnitude of the person or thing that has to be encircled. Then the momentum of the bullet, attached to the very end of the thong, causes it to fly round and round the obstacle, which thus becomes completely encircled in coils of leather. But although, by a series of well-directed jerks, it would be easy enough to break the spinal vertebrae of any man who might be caught in this manner by the neck, all the pulling in the world would scarcely tighten the lasso about his throat to such an extent as to throttle him.

The children of the Balearic Isles are said to have been compelled by their parents to bring down their breakfast every morning from the top of a tree or pole, where it used to be placed in order to test their skill in the art of slingng stones.

The children of Chili would have no trouble whatever in procuring their morning meal on similar terms if for the sling they were allowed to substitute the lasso. All day long they may be seen practising with the national weapon, and many of them excel in its use. At about twenty paces distance from a row of dark, bright, sharp-eyed little boys is a board raised some feet from the ground, and exhibiting a couple of bull's or goat's horns, which are fixed firmly into it with an interval of a few inches between them. Each of the young Chilians cries out whether he is going to throw to the right or to the left, and aims accordingly. Of course, many of the novices miss their mark; but it is astonishing how quickly they learn to use their lassos with effect.

Although duelling is strictly prohibited in Chili, every Chilian carries a long knife, or cuchillo, as a matter of course; and it frequently happens that this weapon is resorted to as final arbitrator in a dispute. Occasionally, too, a combat takes place between a man armed with a cuchillo and one who has nothing but his lasso. In these cases it is difficult to say on which side the advantage lies. If the possessor of the lasso misses his throw, the wielder of the cuchillo rushes upon him and can finish him with a stroke. But will the throw be missed? On that depends the whole affair, and it must be confessed that the Chilian—or, indeed, any South American—rarely uses the lasso without success. It may fall on the adversary's neck, or on the very hand that holds the cuchillo. In the latter case the man is disarmed—perhaps by a sudden jerk thrown violently to the ground; in the former he may or may not be throttled, according to the inclination of the conqueror.

The lasso is not merely useful as a weapon of offence and in time of war. For catching animals of all kinds, for taming horses, for leaving a track along the sand by which to guide friend, it is equally serviceable. Gabriel Ferry, the celebrated Mexican traveller, has told us how, thanks to the traces of a lasso, he escaped from a sandy desert where he was dying of thirst to a luxuriant plain which abounded in springs. The plain belonged to a hacienda or settlement, which included many similar ones; and as it was particularly rich in wild horses and wild oxen, the lasso was in constant use, and was used, too, in a variety of ways.

Every year there was a general hunt throughout the hacienda. All the young horses and oxen had to be caught and branded with the initials of the proprietor. Then all the five-year-old colts were broken in—that is to say, they were saddled and ridden three or four times, and afterwards allowed to rejoin their herds. But the vaquero, or rider, generally makes such an impression upon the young horses, with his hard bit, his heavy whip, and his immense spurs, that, for at least three years after their first introduction to civilised life, they are found to preserve a perfect recollection of that one day's training.

The vaquero is, of course, a most accomplished rider, and has been accustomed to horsemanship from his early youth. While yet a child, his father ties him with a handkerchief to the saddle. As he grows bigger he begins to ride by himself. At last his legs become bowed from continual horse exercise, and he feels more at ease on horseback than on foot. He has then to learn how to throw the lasso while riding at full gallop. He must also study the country and its products, and must endeavour to acquire something of the instinct of the horse, who at a distance of fifty miles can discern the odours of the plants he is accustomed to sniff by day, and the emanations of the trees beneath which he passes his nights. In the midst of the vast solitudes in which he spends his existence, without roads to guide him, and frequently without knowing in what direction he may have been hurried by the heat of pursuit, the vaquero never hesitates in determining what path he shall take. The moss on the trees, the course of the rivers or brooks, the position of the sun, the elevation or depression of the plants, the meaning of the wind, are all so many voices and signs by which the vaquero is enabled to find his way. Probably this wonderful delicacy of perception is due in part to his sobriety, which is remarkable. A small piece of dried meat, some pimento, and a cigarette, are a day's sustenance for a vaquero. He drinks no fermented liquors, and can always sufficiently allay his thirst with a little water which has, perhaps, been lying all day in the hole stamped by a horse's or buffalo's hoof in the ground. The heat of the day and the coldness of the night affect him equally little, and he gallops through the forest just as if he were riding through the open plain. It may be thought that the branches of the trees must incommod him, to say nothing of the trunks themselves, which are often close enough together. But, no. The horse sees where he is going, and picks his way; and as for the vaquero, wherever the horse goes he can go, thanks to the suppleness of his body and to the agility with which he shifts his position in the saddle so as to avoid every possible obstacle.

When the vaquero has got within a fair distance of the horse he is pursuing and has thrown the inevitable lasso over his head, he has to appear in a new part. He dismounts from the faithful steed who has borne him miles and miles across the country, and proceeds to saddle the unruly colt he has just caught, and which he intends to tame. This is the truly dangerous part of the vaquero's profession. However, after a struggle of two or three hours, the horse is generally taught to recognise his inferiority to his rider, and is brought back from his first lesson with downcast eye and sides covered with foam.

Sometimes, too, it happens that the rider is brought back. The horse has dashed him against a rock, but the vaquero has died—as a vaquero should die—without losing his seat.

On the annual day appointed for marking the young horses and bulls with the proprietors' brand, an inclosure is opened for their reception, and a number of vaqueros go out into the plains or into the woods, and drive the animals before them in herds towards the entrance. Then all the inhabitants of the hacienda surround them on horseback. The vaqueros rush upon them, whirling their lassos above their heads, striking those that hang back and riding down those that appear really obstinate. When the animals are all fairly

collected within the inclosure, and the barriers are put up, the confusion of the interior can scarcely be described. Some of the horses throw themselves frantically against the hurdles and palisades, others get up fight among themselves, and there is such a neighing and rearing as causes the trees in the neighbouring forest to quiver. At last, when the tumult has somewhat abated, the vaqueros proceed with the herradero, or branding.

Tripods laden with dry wood having been lighted up near the entrance of the inclosure, the branding-irons are soon heated, and the vaqueros, after a few minutes' rest, are ready to commence their difficult and dangerous task.

Whenever one of the horses in the inclosure is discovered not to bear the mark of the hacienda on his coat a lasso whistles for a second in the air and never fails, in the midst of the forest of heads and horns, to reach the animal for which it is intended. Then the mass of horses and oxen opens before the unfortunate beast, which, willing or unwilling, is dragged outside the gates. A second vaquero, with a careless air, throws his lasso just before the animal's feet, jerks it upwards a moment afterwards, and, setting spurs to his steed, gallops away in a contrary direction to that in which the first vaquero is proceeding. The horse or bull, which thus has its head pulled to one side and its feet to the other, can do nothing but fall to the ground. In an instant the redhot iron is applied, a little column of smoke rises from the animal's hide, every nerve and muscle in its body begin to tremble; then the lassos are removed, and the poor beast escapes without delay to the forest or plain with the mark of its owner burnt indelibly into its flesh. In a few minutes the space in front of the inclosure is full of a thick, steamy smoke, through which may be perceived the dark bodies of the bulls and horses quivering on the sand, the bronzed faces of the vaqueros, and the glare of the redhot irons.

We have said that the most perilous part of the vaquero's occupation consists in "breaking" the horses. When the colt has been thrown down and marked he is either kept lying on the ground or allowed to get up; but in either case a broad leather band is tied over his eyes. The animal, deprived of light, generally allows himself to be saddled quietly enough. Then a string of horsehair is fastened to his nostrils and tied at the top, so as to form at once a bridle and a curb. The vaquero, after girding on the saddle as tightly as possible, springs into his seat, or allows the horse to rise with him, according to the position in which he has been kept. Then the bandage is removed from the horse's eyes, and he is left to the entire management of his rider.

The animal hesitates for an instant; but soon the aspect of the plains, which he has been accustomed to traverse in perfect liberty, the odour of his native forests, the weight on his back, now felt for the first time, all combine to produce a neigh of rage. His hesitation is at an end. He endeavours to shake off the saddle, but without effect; the band is strapped so tight that it cuts a large deep furrow in the animal's flesh, which rises in a ridge on each side. He tries to bite his rider's legs, but soon desists when the horsehair which confines his nostrils is pulled. He rushes frantically about the plain, rears, plunges; but all in vain. Hitherto the rider has remained on the defensive; now he commences his attack. He claps his heavy spurs to the horse's sides and holds them there. The animal starts with pain and surprise, and utters a hoarse cry, which proceeds alike from wounded pride and impotent rage. Then, rising upon his hind legs and bounding forward as if from springs of steel, he tears along the plain at a fearful pace, until suddenly he stops short; but the vaquero has thrown himself back instinctively in his saddle, and preserves his equilibrium in an astonishing manner. The horse is now made to feel the spurs once more; and, as the vaquero ploughs up his coat without remorse, the quadruped continues "his mad career," and does not stop until he is fairly exhausted, his nostrils dilating with terror and rage, his mouth covered with foam, his mane damp with sweat, and his sides dripping with blood. Perhaps, in a moment of desperation, he may yet try to crush his rider against the trunk of a tree; but the probabilities are that he acknowledges himself beaten, and that he will now move about in obedience to the hand, the voice, and the spur of his terrible master. As for the vaquero, he takes a long breath, lights a cigar, and puts the saddle, still wet upon the back of another horse.

Do any of our readers know Mr. Rarey's secret for taming the wildest horse? More persons than those who gave Mr. Rarey the few pounds and the pledge of secrecy are acquainted with the process now. We believe all the married subscribers told their wives, and many of the wives told their unmarried sisters, who in their turn told the gentlemen to whom they were engaged—their "lovers," or "admirers," or "betrothed," or whatever they are called. We have heard it positively stated that the secret is no secret at all in Mexico, and that it consists merely in passing a lasso or slipknot round either of the animal's hind-legs and round the fore-leg on the same side; in drawing these legs close up to the body and binding them to it; in throwing the patient to the ground—a feat which is easily performed when he has only two legs to stand on, and those both on the same side; and, finally, in sitting on the poor quadruped's carcass, pushing him about, talking to him, and assuring him generally that he is beaten.

This is all very well; but the fact is the Mexicans cannot break their horses half so easily. They may throw a horse down, but the animal gets up again of his own accord; they may tie up his legs, but as soon as he gets them loose he will kick the brains out of any man who happens to be within range of his hoofs. When the Mexicans use the lasso in the manner attributed to Mr. Rarey, it is generally in order to keep a horse quiet while he is being saddled; but that operation once performed he is let go, and then, thanks to the harness and to the vaquero seated in the saddle, is a great deal further from being tame than ever he was before. However, in these cases the Mexicans do not throw the horse to the ground. They pass a lasso round the nearest hind-leg, and another round the off fore-leg, strap both the limbs to the horse's body, and leave him a right fore-leg and a left hind-leg—or conversely—to stand upon. The quadruped, suddenly changed into a biped, has enough to do to keep his balance, and is as quiet as a dead lamb until the lassos are removed. The Mexican traveller whom we have already named, and from whom we derive all our information on the subject of Mexican horse-tamers, describes the saddling and breaking of a wild and unusually vicious horse who rejoiced in the appropriate name of "Endemoniado"—that is to say, "possessed with a demon." We have not room for the whole story, but we cannot do better than close this article with an abridgment of it. It is so far connected with our subject, the lasso, that the ingenious contrivance had to be made use of first for catching the horse, and secondly for binding two of his legs to his body while he was being saddled. Benito, the celebrated vaquero who had to ride him, saw that the girths were firm and fast, and then told his attendants to remove the lassos from his legs and at the same time to tie the usual leather bandage over his eyes. Endemoniado was still held by the horsehair which encircled his nostrils, but, nevertheless, it was impossible to keep him still, and Benito was unable to mount him. At last Endemoniado was made to kneel—always by means of the lasso—and two vaqueros, each holding one of the animal's ears in his mouth, kept him down for an instant while Benito jumped on his back.

The two vaqueros leaped back, and Endemoniado sprang to his feet as if moved by some secret spring. Thanks to the bandage which still covered his eyes the horse remained still for some time, with his head depressed and trembling in every limb. Benito profited by this short respite to seat himself firmly in the saddle, then leant forward and removed the bandage. Confused by the light, the animal confined himself for some seconds to expressing his surprise by means of a series of very violent neighs. Then, turning round on his hind hoofs, he sprang successively towards the four cardinal points as if to ascertain in what direction the wind lay. Benito was now merely on the defensive. He kept his seat, and that was all that was required of him.

The next moment Endemoniado attacked his rider's legs, but his rider had wooden stirrups on, and these he kicked into the horse's

mouth and rattled about his teeth until the beast willingly turned his attention to some other mode of freeing himself from the burdensome and tyrannical vaquero. He rose on his hind-legs and, not content with merely rearing, carried the performance to such an extent that he turned completely over and fell on his back.

But the active vaquero was not crushed. The saddle touched the ground, but Benito sprang from it in time, and now stood by the side of the horse waiting for him to rise. Before Endemoniado was fairly on his legs Benito was on Endemoniado's back. He appeared anxious to avenge the affront offered to him by his quadruped enemy, and had no sooner settled himself firmly in the saddle than he dug his long spurs deep into the horse's ribs.

Endemoniado bounded across the plain, and the more he bounded the more Benito spurred. It almost appeared as if the vaquero wished to hold on by the heels of his boots, but all he wanted to do was to punish the unruly animal who had caused him, for the first time in his life, to quit the saddle. Not satisfied with making the fullest use of his formidable spurs, the enraged vaquero, with his heavy-headed whip let fall showers—perfect thunderstorms—of blows upon the head of the unfortunate beast.

However, neither the rider nor the ridden could yet be pronounced victorious. It was evidently a drawn battle between the two, and Endemoniado seemed so fully convinced of this, that he absolutely pulled up short, and, failing even to shake the vaquero in his saddle, remained perfectly still for about half a minute, as if meditating what he should do next.

The lookers-on applauded as if they had been at the theatre; in fact, much more than if they had been at the theatre; for, judging from what our traveller says of them, we doubt whether these inhabitants of the hacienda would enjoy theatrical performances at all. In the meanwhile, the vaquero appeared quite intoxicated by the applause. He was determined, as it were, to give odds to the horse. He put his hand into his pocket and drew out a knife. For a moment the owner of the horse thought Benito was going to murder him. However, all the vaquero did was to cut the horsehair which gave him the command of Endemoniado's nose, and therefore of his head generally. He had made up his mind to ride him and to him without so much as a bridle!

Directly the animal found that his nostrils were once more at liberty and that he could move his head as he had been in the habit of doing in the days of his freedom, he crossed the plain as straight and nearly as swift as a cannon-ball, and made for the woods. Then all hope was lost. It appeared certain that Benito would be dashed to pieces against some tree.

The vaquero rode towards the wool as if he really wanted to go there; but when he was within about five yards from the commencement, and when, in the eyes of the spectators, a concussion was not only imminent but inevitable, he doffed his large sombrero and suddenly placed it before the horse's eyes. The startled Endemoniado at once took another direction, and from this moment Benito guided him with his hat as easily as an ordinary rider would have guided an ordinary horse with an ordinary bridle and bit.

Endemoniado had now nothing before him but an almost boundless plain, but he carried his rider far out of sight, and many prophesied that if ever he brought him back he would at all events not bring him back alive.

But after the lapse of some forty minutes Benito returned. He had ridden the horse, and spurred him, and beat him, and brought him back galloping—this time against his will—through clouds of dust, until, what with the fine sand and the animal's natural moisture, his coat seemed to have been plastered with mud.

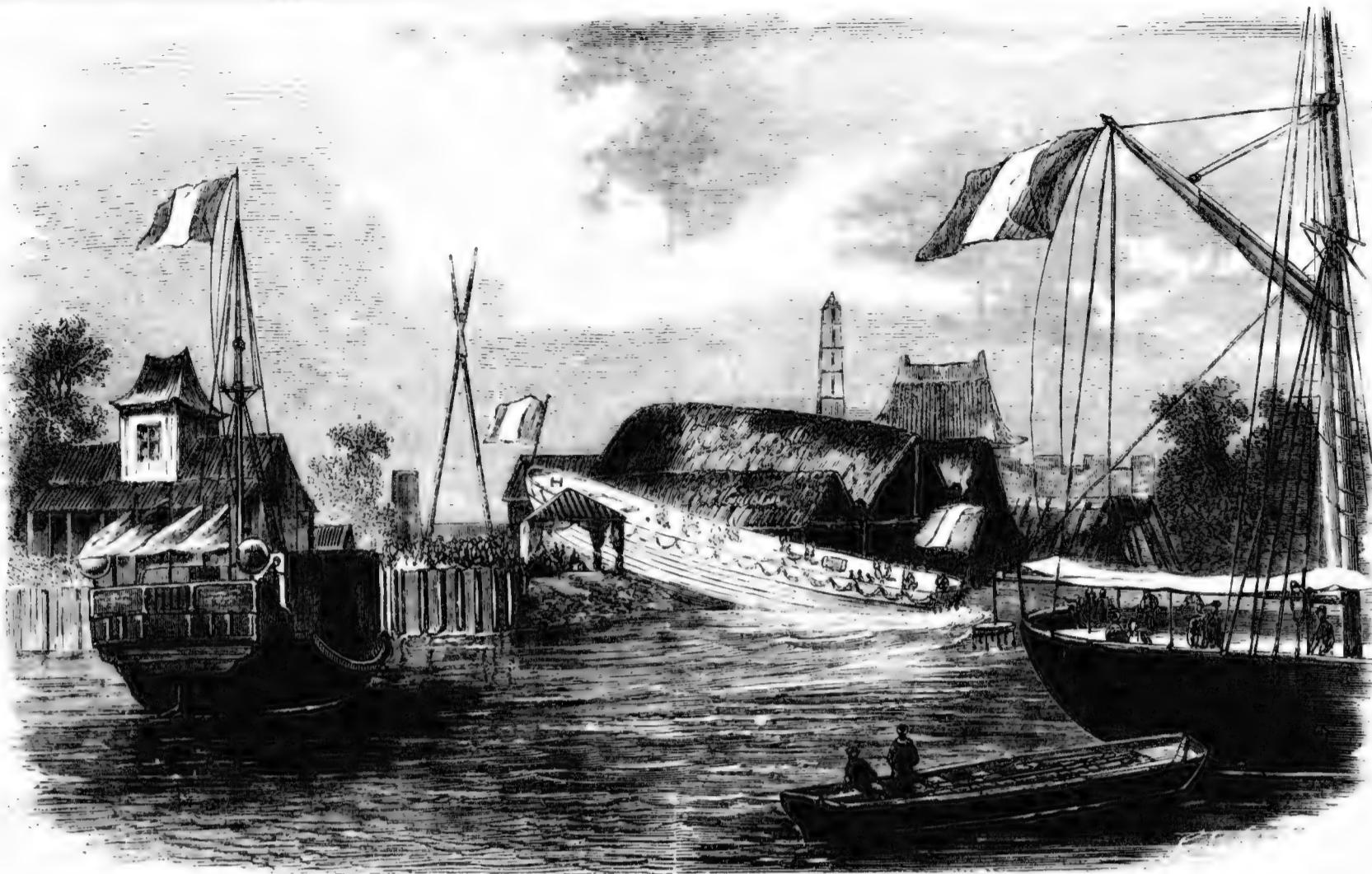
Benito having once tamed his horse, did not seem to consider that he owed him the slightest grudge. He patted him on the shoulder as he walked him round the inclosure to show how thoroughly he had subdued him, and half an hour afterwards was waiting, lasso in hand, to catch some other Endemoniado, if such another were to be found, and in that case to tame him as he had effectually tamed his predecessor.

A BREAD RIOT IN PERSIA.

"The Shah, on coming in from hunting, was surrounded by a mob of several thousand women yelling for bread, who gutted the bakers' shop of their contents under the very eyes of the King, and were so violent that as soon as the Shah had entered the palace he ordered the gates of the citadel to be shut. Next day, March 1, the disturbances were renewed, and, in spite of the gates being closed, thousands of women made their way into the citadel, and began to assail the guards with large stones, being urged on by their male relatives, who, under cover of this attack, were looking out for an opportunity to effect a more serious rise. Meantime, the Shah had ascended the tower from which Hajji Baba's Zainab was thrown, and was watching the rioters with a telescope. The Kalantar, who had been seen just before entering the palace, splendidly dressed, with a long retinue of servants, went up the tower and stood by the Shah, who reproached him for suffering such a tumult to have arisen. On this the Kalantar declared he would soon put down the riot, and going amongst the women with his servants, he himself struck several of them furiously with a large stick. One of the women so assailed ran as far as the English Mission, and came in calling out for help, and showing her clothes covered with blood. On the women vociferously calling for justice, and showing their wounds, the Shah summoned the Kalantar and said, 'Ifthen art thus cruel to my subjects before my eyes, what must be thy secret misdeeds?' Then, turning to his attendants, the King said, 'Bastinado him and cut off his beard.' And again, while this sentence was being executed, the Shah uttered that terrible word, 'Timid!' (Strangle him!) In a moment the executioners had placed the cord round the unhappy man's neck, and in an instant more their feet were on his chest trampling out the last signs of life. At the same time the Kadhudas or magistrates of all the quarters of Tehran were subjected to the bastinado; and at sight of these punishments the frenzy of the populace was for that day appeased, and Tehran was saved by a hair's breadth from a revolution."—*Eusticke's Journal of a Diplomat's Three Year's Residence in Persia.*

MR. HAMEL, of the Common Law Bar, has proceeded to Egypt to examine the Pacha, on behalf of the Crown, in reference to the Mersey rams; and Mr. John Fletcher, late of the firm of Messrs. Fletcher and Hull, accompanies him to act on behalf of the owners of the vessels.

LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held on Thursday at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £391 were voted to the crews of various life-boats of the institution, and of fishing and other boats for saving the following shipwrecked crews:—Norwegian barque Iris, of Stavanger, 13; schooner Water Lily, of Pwllheli, 4; sloop Barbara, of Burghhead, 3; smack Howard, of Grimsby, 1; French lugger Chasseur, 5; schooner Britannia, Newquay, 2; fishing-boat of Shetland, 2; sloop Shamrock, of Whitchurch, 2; pilot-boat in distress of Lerwick, 7; smack Mary Anne, of Portlaoise, 1; brig Palladium, of Shetland, 7; brig Undaunted, of London, 7; fishing-boat in distress of Hilton, Ireland, 5; and brig Alice, of Newcastle, 9—total, 73 lives saved. The Rev. C. Eric, brother of Chief Justice Eric, had forwarded to the institution a donation of one hundred guineas. The Chief Justice had previously presented to it a liberal contribution. The institution had received during the past month legacies from the executors of the following persons:—The late Mr. John Williams, Esq., of Whitechapel, £14; Mr. W. Webb, £1; £7 1s.; and Mr. Samuel Clarke, of Huddersfield, £14 1s. Legacies of £20 each had also been left to the society by the late Newson Smith, Esq., and Mrs. Mary Anne Duroure. It was reported that the Liverpool Shipwreck Association had decided to place its four life-boat stations under the management of the National Institution, which had decided on completely renovating the same. Some friends of the late Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., had contributed to earl the cost of the Skegness life-boat, which the institution desired to call after that gentleman, who, it will be remembered, perished in a shipwreck. It was reported that the institution had now life-boats ready to be sent to Berwick-on-Tweed, to the Land's End, and to Redcar, Yorkshire. Several individuals had promised to pay the cost of the three boats. It was also reported that Mr. Whitworth, Esq., the Rev. E. Hewlett, and other gentlemen at Manchester, had collected from their friends and others the cost of four life-boats. The institution had now 132 life-boats under its management, and during the last fifteen months sons of them, together with some fishing and shore boats, to whose crews the society had granted rewards, had saved 924 persons from different ship wrecks. Payments amounting to £200 having been made on various life-boat establishments, the proceedings terminated.



LAUNCH OF THE FRENCH GUN-BOAT KENNEY, AT NINGPO.

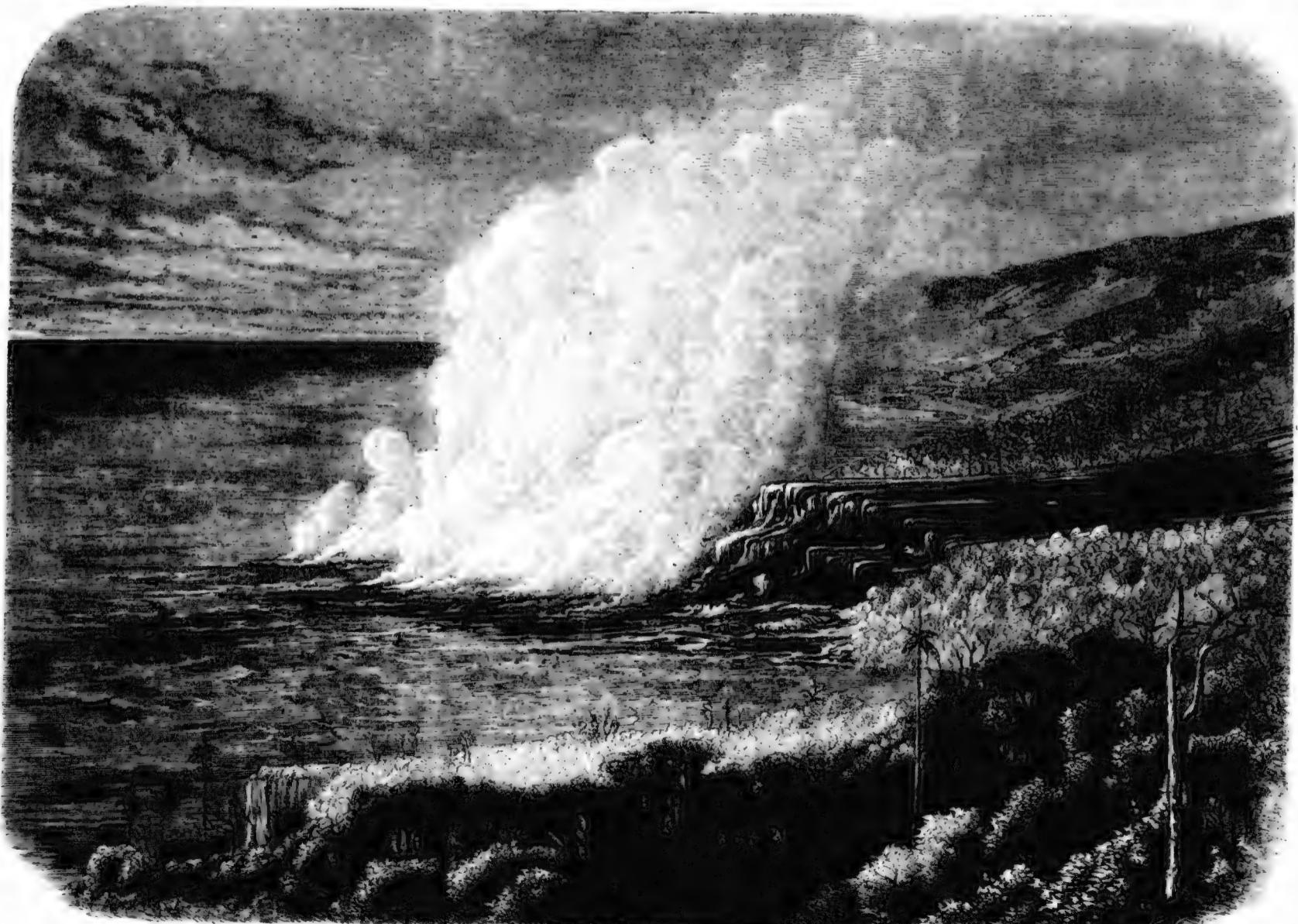
THE FRENCH AT NINGPO.

ACCORDING to the latest news from China, the Imperialists have resumed their sway over at least half the province of Kiangsu—that is to say, of the portion of territory which, lying south of the Yang-Tze, includes Nankin in the east and Shanghai in the west. The whole district had been cleared of the rebels by Admiral Hope, who expelled them from an area of about thirty miles round Shanghai, in accordance with the urgent wishes of the foreign community in the settlement; and the Futai, or military governor of the province, assisted by forces of disciplined Chinese, under foreign officers, continued the work which had been so thoroughly begun by the French and English allied troops.

The Imperialists have also recovered their ground at Hang-Kow, but it is doubtful whether they will be able to maintain their position without assistance. It would seem that the French authorities have been called upon to interfere at Kahding, where one of their missionaries was prohibited by the Futai and the mandarins from purchasing land, the terms for his possession of which had been already completed; there was a probability of a serious riot, and the Zouaves were ordered up to the place. The district mandarin has since been degraded for his inefficiency in quelling the disturbance.

At Ningpo a large number of vessels of war, both French and English, have been maintained for some time past, and our Engraving represents the launch of a new gun-boat in the French

service, in addition to the force already concentrated at that seaport. The occasion of launching of the Kenney from the stocks of the French marine partook of the nature of a public fête, for the construction of the temporary dockyard in which it was built was one of the first signs of the recovery of the town from the destruction perpetrated by the rebels. In taking the command of the naval station, Vice-Admiral Juarez exhibited his sympathy with the people by providing employment for the labouring part of the population in the Government works, and on the day of the launch M^{ons}ieur Delaplace came, followed by all his clergy, to bestow a benediction on the new vessel, and although the Sisters of Charity remained at home, according to the customs of the country, they witnessed the ceremony from the windows of the orphan



ERUPTION OF THE VOLCANO ON THE ISLAND OF REUNION.—(FROM A SKETCH BY P. CANIENS.)

asylum. The workmen who had been employed in building the Kenney were not a little affected by the encomiums passed upon their labours by the Apostolic Vicar of Tsche-Ki-Ang, and after the benediction the signal was given to knock away the shores. During the process of its building the Chinese authorities had expressed continual interest in the work, and were never tired of inquiring into the details of a vessel so utterly opposed to their own notions of naval architecture, so that, when the boat reached the water in safety and glided out into the stream, his Excellency the Tao-Tai was heartily followed in his applause by the native visitors—a demonstration which met a lively response in the cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" and the booming of the guns on board the Tancrede. In China, as in other countries, no such ceremony is complete without a banquet; and at Ningpo champagne has become an institution which was thoroughly appreciated on this occasion. The first toast at the succeeding collation ("The success of the Kenney") was proposed by Mr. Maugum, the United States Consul, and the last ("To the prosperity of the town of Ningpo") by the principal of the dockyard. This toast was received with acclamation, and the party broke up very well pleased with their entertainment, and waiting with interest the completion of vessel, which will receive her machinery and material of war from the arsenal of Brest. The building of the Kenney has proved that, by making use of native labour, vessels may be built at the Chinese stations thoroughly adapted for the service and at a comparatively small cost; and this discovery is the more valuable inasmuch as it will be necessary to maintain a gun-boat force to protect the more flourishing districts opened to European commerce. Of these places, the city of Ningpo is one of the most important, since it is admirably adapted for that junk trade which has made it so famous since it was opened to foreign commerce in 1843. The old city was surrounded by walls after the true Chinese manner—walls 25 ft. high and 15 ft. wide at the top—and was esteemed one of the most beautiful places in the Celestial empire, more (it may be supposed) on account of its situation on a magnificent plain than for its filthy narrow streets and dull brick houses. The most remarkable edifice in the whole city is the ruined tower of Ningpo, a hexagonal, seven-storied building, 160 ft. high, and said to have been erected 1100 years ago. This and the Ma-Tsupu Temple are nearly the only ancient buildings; but the town has recently been much improved, and near the river the streets contain some very fine shops and storehouses. The Missionary Hospital, the Orphan Asylum, and other charitable institutions, render this town remarkable; the former of these, which was opened in 1843, being of enormous benefit to the native population, who seem thoroughly to appreciate many of the advantages derived from the presence of the European colonists.



LUDWIG II., KING OF BAVARIA.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY H. HOLZ.)

ERUPTION OF A VOLCANO IN THE ISLAND OF REUNION (BOURBON).

A LETTER from the island of Réunion (better known as Bourbon) conveys the account of a violent eruption of the volcanic mountain which is situated in the interior. A complete stream of fire flowed down the slopes of the mountain itself, and was discharged into the sea after having traversed a distance of more than eleven miles, and intersected the main road in flood three or four hundred yards wide. The surface of the lava, when it once begins to cool, presents a black mass of unequal surface, full of deep crevices, in the midst of which a fiery stream flows onward to the sea. The volcanic matter has already formed a promontory which stretches out beyond the land, and it is from the edge of this new coast that the magnificent spectacle is seen to the greatest advantage. A vast column of vapour rises above the spot where liquid fire and water unite, and the waves dash over the red river, whose glowing colour may be seen beneath them as they seethe into sudden bursts of steam, reflecting the red glare of the molten mass.

The island on which this extraordinary phenomenon is taking place is situated in the Indian Ocean, to the east of Madagascar, and occupies an area of about 1030 square miles. It was discovered, in 1542, by the Portuguese navigator Mascarenhas, and received his name. At that time it was entirely uninhabited, but in 1612 it received some criminals from the French colony at Madagascar, and was itself formed into a French colony in 1649, when it received the name of Bourbon, afterwards changed to Réunion, at the outbreak of the French Revolution, to Bonaparte and Napoleon on the establishment respectively of the Consulate and the Empire, and once more to Bourbon, on the restoration of the Royal family in 1815; since which it has been known both as Bourbon and Réunion.

It is probable that the whole island may owe its origin to plutonic action, since it consists of two systems of volcanic mountains, divided by a plain. Of these two series of heights that of the north-western portion is the most important, occupying, in fact, nearly half the area of the island. Nearly in their centre rises a huge mass of lava, with three inaccessible peaks, called the Salages, the highest point of which is 10,334 ft. The country surrounding this mass exhibits large tracts of lava or basaltic rocks of various descriptions, their prisms frequently disposed in regular columns; but these, like the lava rocks, are often split by deep, narrow crevices; while the surfaces between the rocks seem formed into basins or vales. At some places the red, clayey soil has been planted with coffee, and there are some fine forests of timber; but the river torrents which come rushing down from the heights can rarely be used to advantage in irrigating the surrounding country. The plains which separate this volcanic region from that in the south-east district of the island occupy about one third of the area, the two principal



SCENE FROM THE FIRST PART OF "HENRY IV." AT DRURY-LANE.

tracts which extend across the island being divided by a rocky rampart. From the southern shores the country rises gradually for some miles, and then extends in one of these uneven plains—that of the Caffres—the surface being, in fact, a series of small plains rising one above another and intersected by hillocks. At the southern extremity this plain is 3600 ft. above the level of the sea; but, where it joins the plain of Cilaes, towards the southern range, it rises still higher.

Thus, Bourbon presents the appearance of an island of nearly circular form, with a comparatively smooth coastline. The interior is occupied by high mountains, girded, as it were, with a maritime belt of low, well-cultivated land only a few miles broad. The mountain slopes rising from this border are, in some places, cultivated to the height of 3000 feet, but the upper plains just mentioned contain very little soil worth attention for agricultural purposes. The active volcano, which is named Piton de la Fournaise, is situated in the southern group of mountains, and rises to a height of 7218 ft. From the peculiar structure of the surface, and from the fact that the violent winds blow generally from the eastern quarter, the two sides of the island are known as Partie du Vent and Partie sous le Vent. The climate is generally healthy, however, and the air pure; the hot, rainy season lasting from November till May. The principal towns are St. Denis, on the north-west coast, and St. Peter, on the south-west. The chief products are coffee, cloves, pepper, sugar, tobacco, salt, porcelain, cottons, rum, dye-woods, and saltpetre; while the coasts yield turtle, coral, and ambergris: but the trade of Bourbon is greatly affected by the want of harbours in place of the open roadsteads. The inhabitants are composed of a few families of pure European blood, a great number of the mixed race, and a still greater number of negroes. The law is administered by a Governor and a council of thirty members; and the island contains hospitals, law courts, a large number of churches, and numerous educational establishments, including a college and several schools. The present population is about 112,000, of whom 66,000 are negroes.

LUDWIG II., KING OF BAVARIA.

THE death of Maximilian II., King of Bavaria, on the 10th of last month, was so sudden that the young Crown Prince Ludwig was called to the throne almost before his accession was anticipated by the people; and the trumpeters and pursuivants, in the old German fashion, were proclaiming him King while the first shock of the late King's death had scarcely fallen on the nation. But the Monarch never dies, and Prince Ludwig had already come of age, since the heir to the throne reaches manhood at eighteen.

The political importance of Bavaria suffered nothing under the rule of the late King, when it is remembered that it was only in the time of his grandfather, Maximilian Joseph, that the duchy was erected into a kingdom by the marriage of that Duke's daughter to Eugene Beauharnais, in 1806. With a statecraft which was successful enough, the King afterwards joined the league against Napoleon, and by that course retained his throne after the fall of the empire. At his death, in 1825, he was succeeded by Ludwig, the father of the late King, whose reign became famous alike for his own personal inability to govern and for the reforms effected through the agency of the celebrated Countess of Lansfeldt, Lola Montez, who counteracted the power of the Jesuits. After the revolutionary tumults Ludwig abdicated in favour of the late King Maximilian, who succeeded to the throne in 1848, having previously (in 1842) married Maria, second daughter of the late Prince William of Prussia. Of his two sons, Ludwig, the present King, was born on the 25th of August, 1845, and Otho (the ex-King of Greece) in the year of his accession, April 27, 1848.

The members of the Royal House of Bavaria are descendants, in the female line, of the ancient Counts of Wittelsbach, who were in the plenitude of their power in the twelfth century. Duke Maximilian I. of Bavaria was elevated to the rank of Elector of the Holy Roman Empire during the Thirty Years' War, in recompense for his opposition to Protestantism; and Elector Maximilian Joseph was raised to the rank of King by Napoleon in 1805, the title being acknowledged by the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

"HENRY IV." AT DRURY LANE.

IN our last Number we mentioned the production of "Henry IV.," with great splendour, mechanical effects, real armour, and archaeological accessories, copied from the best authorities. The revival does infinite credit to the management, and is superior to any of the Shakespearian revivals at the Princess's, when under the management of Mr. Charles Kean, from the facts of the spacious stage of Drury giving more ample scope for the gathering of armed hosts and the shock of battle than the pretty little theatre in Oxford-street, and that the treatment of "Henry IV." is not too realistic. The dialogue is not subservient to processions, panoramas, and the like. There is, as there should always be, more picture than frame, and not more frame than picture: the relative positions of Shakespeare and the scene-painter, the actor and the costumier, are not reversed.

It was well said by one of the daily papers that audiences take more interest in the revels at the "Boar's Head in Eastepepe" than in the Percy rebellion. Our Artist has been of the same opinion. He has avoided the temptation of picturesque masses of retainers "in martial symmetry arrayed;" of evening sunbeams reflected on the tips of lances and on groves of spears; of steel-clad Hotspurs, Mortimers, and Worcesters; and employed his pencil on the more congenial theme of the robbery on the road near Gadshill. The moment chosen is just after the travellers have been eased of their property. The fat Knight—jolly, vociferous, and blatant—is seated, sharing the spoil with his bottle-nosed and mouldy follower Bardolph, with smart Peto, and smarter Gadshill. Sack and sugar and fat capons, new jinkins, and fresh apparel generally, float and flutter before the eyes of his imagination; but Nemesis is watching at the back in the person of the mad Prince and Poins, cloaked and masked, with visards, not mere patches of black cloth, but real false faces.

A broad pale moon sails in the clouds above. The scene—the work of Mr. Beverley—looks an enlarged "Gainsborough"—green, hilly, and with an effect of luminous mist and night-dew on the grass.

THE OPERAS.

AT the Royal Italian Opera "Masaniello," with Mario, Graziano, and Mdlle. Battu in the principal singing parts, and with Mdlle. Salvioni as the dancing prima donna, was played on Tuesday. "Il Trovatore" was given on Thursday for the débuts of Mdlle. Destinn and Herr Wachtel. For to-night (Saturday) "La Favorita" is advertised, with Lagrus, Mario, and Graziani.

We learn from *La Presse Théâtrale* that Signor Arditì has been attending the representations of M. Gounod's new opera, just produced in Paris under the title of "Mireille"; and as he was seen "taking notes score in hand," it is assumed, not unreasonably, that "Mireille" is destined, before long, to be produced on the boards of Her Majesty's Theatre. Signor Arditì is also said to have made an excursion to Germany for the purpose of hearing "Tannhäuser," which is positively promised for the present season. The Italian version of Herr Wagner's celebrated work has been done by Signor Marchesi. In the meanwhile, Her Majesty's Theatre opens this evening with "Rigoletto," the performance of which will possess a special interest from the entire novelty of the cast. Thus the part of Rigoletto is given to a new baritone, Signor Fagotti; the part of Gilda to a new soprano, Mdlle. Vitali; and the part of the Duke of Mantua, not precisely to a new tenor—for it is assigned to Signor Giuglini—but at least to one who will be new to us in that character. Giuglini has been appearing, and it is said with considerable success, as the Duke of Mantua in St. Petersburg. If this mild and occasionally apathetic performer does not quite suit the part, as we have been in the habit of seeing it represented, he has only to alter it to suit himself, and to say boldly that he is giving it a "new reading." That he will sing the music delightfully can scarcely be doubted, unless, indeed, he has left his voice behind in the St. Petersburg frost, which, however, as it has defied so long the far more injurious attacks of the London damp, is by no means

probable. Even "Maddalena" and her dishonest brother, the brigand with the long name, are to find new representatives—the former Mdlle. Bettelheim, the latter Signor Gasperoni. Mdlle. Bettelheim is from Vienna, where she has gained a considerable reputation at the Imperial Opera. Of Signor Gasperoni we know nothing. In the ball-room scene two new dancers, Mdlle. Aranyvary (from Milan) and Signor Ammaturo, are to appear.

With such singers as Titens, Trebelli, Volpini, and Leibhardt, Giuglini, Santley, Gassier, and we do not know how many more celebrities about to be revealed from among a crowd of actual obscurities, and with such an extensive stock of operas as he already possesses, Mr. Mapleson would scarcely, one would think, find it necessary to bring out many new works during the present season. Put, besides "Tannhäuser" (which will be expected, and the production of which may be looked upon as a certainty), and besides "Mireille" (which *La Presse Théâtrale* expects, and the production of which may be looked upon as something less than an uncertainty), the director promises the operatic version of the "Merry Wives of Windsor," by Nicolai, and "La Forza del Destino," the opera written by Verdi for St. Petersburg, where it was produced the winter before last with great success, and reproduced with less success last winter.

How does it happen, we may here ask, that the "Merry Wives of Windsor" and "La Forza del Destino" are to be brought out the same season at both the rival opera houses? And when the rival managers were drawing up their rival programmes, was Mr. Gye looking over Mr. Mapleson's shoulder, or Mr. Mapleson over Mr. Gye's? Is this sudden liking for Nicolai's music genuine on the part of both directors? and did they both resolve, just at the same time, to bring out a new operatic version of a Shakspearian drama (new, at least, to England) in honour of the Tercentenary Festival?

As to "La Forza del Destino," what particular reason have both managers this year for presenting us with that work—remarkable only as being Verdi's last? If the subscribers of both operas were so anxious to hear it, why was a whole season allowed to elapse after its production at St. Petersburg without any attempt being made to bring it out at either house? A great fuss is made about it now, and we are told (in the Covent Garden programme) that it was written, by command, for the Emperor of Russia—as though music, like boots and clothes, were likely to be better for being made to order; as though the Emperor of Russia gave directions about the preparation of operas any more than he does about the preparation of his dinner; and as though operas, good or bad, interested him half as much as eating and drinking!

The most curious thing about "La Forza del Destino" and its destiny in London is, that each of the two theatres intending to bring it out seems to imagine that it has secured for itself a special title empowering it to do so. Mr. Gye, we are told, has purchased the acting right of the piece, in which case he must have purchased what already, by the loose state of the law on the subject, belonged to every one in England; while Mr. Mapleson assures us that Signor Verdi has undertaken to make certain modifications in the dénouement of his new opera, "of which he is personally to superintend the production." In this case the modified dénouement will, no doubt, be the exclusive property of Mr. Mapleson; and if Mr. Gye can persuade Signor Verdi to modify the opening for Covent Garden, then the opening, so modified, will belong to Mr. Gye. The four singers for whom the four principal parts in "La Forza" were written (Lagrus, Didié, Graziani, and Tamberlik) are all members of Mr. Gye's company; but Mdlle. Barbot, Mdlle. Lagrus's successor at St. Petersburg, was the original representative of the principal female character, and, to make the fight more equal, Mr. Mapleson ought to engage this lady and to give us an opportunity of hearing at Her Majesty's Theatre one of the most brilliant and attractive singers in all Europe.

FINE ARTS.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

FIRST NOTICE.

THE forty-first exhibition of this society shows at least no falling off, and, indeed, includes several gems of art. It is impossible to visit it and not be struck with the great improvement to be observed of late years among our landscape-painters. They appear to go to Nature with the patience and care which are never unrewarded by that bountiful mistress.

As the landscapes this year decidedly predominate in quantity, and perhaps in excellence, it is but fair to give them the place of honour in our notice. The first mention falls undeniably to Mr. G. Cole's "Harvesting in Surrey" (196), where the labourers are stacking the sheaves beneath a half-angry evening sky, in which an army of purple clouds gathers above the low-lying sun, that pours its level rosy rays across the scene and flings long shadows eastward. The painting of this sky is most conscientious, and the effect of the warm light on the men and horses is vividly real. Perhaps after this picture we should place Miss Blunden's view of "The Cathedral Rock, Mullion, Looking towards the Land's End" (993). The pure green sea, purpled in the shadows by underlying ledges of weed, is rendered with a marvellous fidelity; and the warm atmosphere, the indication of a "sweating" hot day in the almost Italian climate of England's western promontory, kissed by the Gulf Stream, is excellently felt.

Mr. Boddington is fully represented by no less than nine monuments of his untiring love of nature and superexcellence in art. His "Shades of Evening" (231) will probably be the chief favourite of these. A mountain farm lies under that soft green sky to be observed at times of a still evening. The foreground lies in shadow, for the sinking sun scatters its fading light only on the brow of the mountain, which blushes above and leaves the water sleeping in a half gloom—not so deep but that the boulders in the stream may be traced through the pell-mell green wave. Another charming picture by this artist is "A Path through a Welsh Wood" (195), which bears evidence by its truthfulness to the assertion that it was "painted on the spot," although with more than ordinary finish. We feel sure if Mr. Boddington had a companion with him he must have tried that shallow brook for the trout that lie in it while his friend was plying the brush. "A Mill-pool in Berkshire" (174), by the same hand, depicts with great fidelity the peculiar high white slate and dark shadow which precede a shower in sunny weather—the prophetic greyness of the pool being moreover truthfully caught. "Thorngill Brook" (492), "A Rabbit Warren," with a splendid bit of undermined hedge-side, and several views in the Lledd Valley, will well repay a careful study. Among the latter, No. 529 is noticeable for the down-dropping rivulet in the mid-distance, traced out by its own mists under a cold sun. Nos. 654 and 745 are also good specimens of Mr. Boddington's style.

We must not overlook Mr. Cole's other pictures in our admiration of his sunset view. No. 56 is remarkable for a study of foliage, and "A Cottage near Godalming" (916) and "The Wey at Eashing" (967) are well worthy of his reputation. Mr. Wilson perhaps ranks next in excellence. His "Cottages at Lyminster" (53), "Brabourne Lees" (605), and "Scene at Stonting" (382) are thoroughly English; his sea views (385, 395) are less successful, although the rocks in his view of "St. Michael's Mount" (168) are conscientiously painted; and there is an immense amount of motion and atmosphere—in short, of blowing weather—in his view of the "Norman Coast" (45). Mr. J. P. Pettitt's best picture is a "Sawmill in North Wales" (133), in which the character of the mossy rocks is well studied. Mr. E. A. Pettitt exhibits a view of the "Bernese Alps" (150), the foreground strewn with debris of rock and fir, grandly suggestive of the gigantic force of the avalanche; and the peculiar "glare" in the atmosphere above snow is very faithfully rendered. Nos. 209 and 498 are also good specimens of his style. Mr. George's "Haunt of the Kingfisher" (37) has a carefully studied foreground, and a "View of Dawlish" (417), by Mr. Nibbs, should not be overlooked; nor two capital bits of sun and shade (22 and 244), by Mr. F. Buckstone. Mr. Percy has a good picture of Snowdon (254); but in No. 482 he indulges in a "magenta"—that is the only name for the colour—for which we have noticed a growing affection in his

paintings. Mr. Clint's "Henley Regatta" (208) we had better pass by in sorrowful silence, his "Stormy Sunset" (243) with doubt, and give our praise to the treatment of sky in No. 767. Mr. Smith's "Morning on the Thames" is bright and sunny, and Mr. Peel exhibits two good pictures (74 and 78), and we are half convinced that we like Mr. Pyne's "Crickeith Castle" (99). Mr. Miles's "Morning" (123) is faultless in the painting of the sun, with the misty rays making a pillar of light, resting on the trees in the mid-distance, and reflected down to the foreground; but in that foreground we would gladly have seen a little more careful work. "A Wild Day on Exmoor" (137), by Mr. Aston, will be recognised as truthful by those who know the locality—but even those who do not know it will acknowledge the skill with which the silvery shiver of the leaves at the coming storm is rendered. A "Valley in Yorkshire" (157), by Mr. Mawley, is another instance of vivid portraiture of scenery, and the same artist, in No. 752, has caught with great skill the weird, wild weather of autumn by a moor stream, over which the heron—bird of solitude—flaps its large, loud wings. We wish we could give a word of praise for Mr. Mawley's wood (226); but all his labour has only produced an unpleasant mottled effect in lieu of foliage. Mr. J. B. Smith has several very pleasing little pictures on the walls—foremost among them, a view of "Killarney" (171), to be remarked for the way in which it tells the profound stillness of the hour when twilight is just dying, and the evening star trembles out through the golden haze, while not a fish ventures to break the silence by leaping in the shallows under the boughs in the gloom of shady nooks. Close by this picture is a very pleasing one (173), by Miss Williams, of a bit of country near the famous "Burnham Beeches," so dear to artists. Mr. Gosling's "English Home" (182) is remarkable for the painting of the water and its reflections—an effect that has seldom been better given. Mr. Hayes is, of course, the most successful of marine painters. His "French Fishing-boat" (210) is full of "go," and there is great freshness in his view of "The Breakwater, Dublin Bay" (337). A "Quiet Pool on the Conway" is faithfully treated by Mr. Coppard in No. 257; and "The Temple at Paestum" is well painted by Mr. Meadows. Mr. Bauer has given a conscientious rendering of foliage, and rock, and water in "Chudleigh Fall" (335); and Mr. Hughes is very successful with an "Old Gateway" (356); as is Mr. Pitt in his views of the "St. German's River" (513, 563) and "Kingwear on the Dart" (606). Mr. Philipson in No. 575 reminds us of the elder Wilson in tone. Space will not allow us to do more than mention the names of Messrs. Ellis, Morris, Wingfield, Buchanan, Niemann, Delham, and Walton as exhibitors of good landscape. Mr. S. Morrish, in a "Cottage Interior" (634) worthy of Webster, achieves a triumph by mere fidelity to human nature, without any attempt to "prettyfify"; he deserves high praise for his conscientiousness. It is a quality not displayed by Mr. Levin in his "Cremorne" (57), which is as false and meretricious as such a subject should be.

In the water-colour room, Mr. E. R. Johnson, in a "Garden" (806), shows how detail can be worked out without sacrificing breadth of effect. "Elizabeth Castle" (966), by Mr. Wolfe; a "View in the Weald of Kent" (822), by Mr. Ward; "Boppard" (824), by Mr. Burrell Smith; some capital beech-trees in "Knowle Park" (995), also by Mr. Ward; and a fine bit of sky in a "Sunset at Sea," by Mr. Powell, should be looked for and studied. Nor must "Waifs and Strays" (1021), by Mr. Wolfe; "Summer on the Thames" (1030), by Mrs. Wainwright; and "Sunlight and Shadow" (1029), by Mr. Perry, be forgotten in our mention of praiseworthy landscape.

We shall resume our notice of this exhibition next week.

MR. WILLIAM SIMPSON'S WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS OF INDIA, THIBET, AND CASHMERE.

This collection of Oriental Views is a most interesting one. To "old Indians" they recall a flood of memories, and for those who have friends in the East—and their name is Legion—they realise scenes which they may, perhaps, never see, but to which the letters of the absent may have often set the imagination wandering. Ceylon, Benares, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, the curious caverns of Ellora and Elephanta—Cawnpore, Delhi, and Peshawur, to which the incidents of the mutiny have lent a terrible interest—the strange region of Thibet, and the oft-sung shores of the Lake of Cashmere, are all represented in Mr. Simpson's water colours with a vividness and force that convey an impression of truthfulness and reality. But the artist has not been content to reproduce simply the scenery of these romantic lands. By judiciously introducing figures and groups, he has lent them the charm of life and the piquancy of rare costumes and quaint ceremonies—nay, even investing them here and there with historical value.

Mr. Simpson must be one of the most patient, enterprising, and energetic of artists. Although the walls of the German Gallery are crowded with his works, the entire series is not yet there. It will, when complete, number two hundred and fifty drawings. It is to be hoped that the expectation expressed in the catalogue that the collection will be kept together, either as public or private property, may be fulfilled. The days of "John Company" are over, or that merchant Prince would surely have bought them. His "heirs, executors, and assigns" may not be so ready to purchase.

It is difficult to say in what Mr. Simpson succeeds best. He paints water with great fidelity; the motion of his seas—take No. 2 as an example—would not discredit some of our first marine painters. In almost photographic minuteness of rendering he equally excels: his view of Calcutta (5) will bear out our statement. Nor is he less successful in depicting the glowing skies of the East—witness the gorgeous sunset cloud in No. 6, or the rich tones of the old architecture of India. The groups, moreover, with which he peoples these scenes are full of character, and the costumes are truly valuable for their fidelity.

We can almost imagine ourselves travelling in a dooly, passing the almost English glimpse of a Bengal village (17), the glittering golden domes of Benares (18), or the mysterious tops, about whose origin and purpose so little is known, but which are so picturesque and peculiar (20 and 21). Or we fancy ourselves borne in a gilded barge, floating to the summer palace on the Lake of Oodeypore (30), crusing the luxuriant, blushing lotos, as it reposes on the waters of Cashmere (107), or shooting along the turbid Ganges or the dark Sutlej. We behold, too, the life of the Eastern from his cradle to his grave. We find the infant asleep in the fields (136); we see the swarthy urchins at school (10), or the marriage procession (44) winding along the streets; we watch the people in the bazaar (16), at worship (19), and at work (57). Finally, we gaze upon their tombs, or on the solemn "towers of silence" where the Parsees deposit their dead. The process of shawl-making in Cashmere has been recorded by Mr. Simpson's indefatigable brush, and appears to interest the ladies deeply. The views of Thibet are very striking; and it is a relief to turn from the glaring skies of Indian midday to the glacier from whose bosom springs the Ganges, or the snowy ranges of the Himalayas.

It is impossible to enumerate one half the objects of interest which the artist has committed to paper with an industrious skill that, like the trunk of the elephant, which now uproots trees and now picks up a pin, has depicted with equal care and truth the terrific storm, the gigantic temple, the rapid river, and the silver state howdah, the rude catamaran, or that praying-cylinder of the Lamas, which would so delight honest Thomas Carlyle.

THE GREAT EASTERN AND THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—The steam-ship Great Eastern has been taken up by Messrs. Glass, Elliott, and Co., the contractors for the Atlantic cable, for the purpose of laying it between England and America. The Great Eastern will be handed over to the contractors on the 1st of May, who from that day pay all the expenses of the steamer, including wages, victualling, insurance, &c.; and when the cable is laid the proprietors of the Great Eastern are to receive £50,000 in paid-up shares of the Atlantic Telegraph Company. Although Messrs. Glass, Elliott, and Co. take possession of the steamer on the 1st of May, it is not their intention to lay the cable across the Atlantic till next spring; and, should anything interfere with their fulfilling their engagements then, the proprietors of the steamer will receive a further remuneration, without interfering with the original agreement, as given above. The arrangement, it is to be hoped, will prove a profitable one for all parties; and the public, we are sure, will with the Great Eastern every success in the undertaking.

LAW AND CRIME.

A CASE, "Herbert v. Thompson," tried on Monday at Liverpool, affords points of interest to artists. The plaintiff is a picture-dealer, and having heard that defendant had a small picture by Turner for sale, negotiated for its purchase. This was ultimately effected at the price of £215. For which sum the plaintiff gave his cheque. A month after the transaction Herbert, the plaintiff, began to doubt if the painting was by Turner, and to entertain an opinion that he had overpaid the value by upwards of £200. The defendant then "insisted that the picture was genuine, and refused to return the purchase money under any circumstances, on the ground that the plaintiff had exercised his own judgment in the purchase." The plaintiff then brought an action upon an alleged warranty by the defendant. At the trial several artists of eminence, well acquainted with Turner's style of painting, appeared as witnesses. Among them were Mr. Cooper, R.A., Mr. Herbert, R.A., Mr. Goodall, and Mr. Pye, the two last named being engravers, well known as having laboured for many years upon the reproduction of Turner's works. One bit of Mr. Pye's evidence is well worthy far greater publicity than that to be obtained from a record of legal proceedings. Said Mr. Pye:—"Whatever Turner painted had a tone of mental power about it and a knowledge of nature, which were entirely absent in the picture produced. Turner would take a small piece of card like that (here the witness described a small space on the margin of the picture about two inches square), and would present upon it a larger space of nature than anybody else could on the side of a house." Mr. Ruskin himself never wrote a sentence more true, concise, and justly descriptive of Turner's work than this. It describes the great painter's highest excellence more neatly and epigrammatically than anything we can remember to have seen in print. The result of the action was substantially a verdict for the defendant, upon the ground that he had not guaranteed the painting to be by Turner. There was a second subsidiary issue on which the defendant pleaded that the picture really had been painted by Turner. The plaintiff proved, to the satisfaction of the jury, that the picture had not been so painted, and upon this point he therefore succeeded, so that he will be entitled to the costs of proof that his own property is comparatively worthless. This is a very dubious success for plaintiff, as a picture-dealer. It might have been better for him had defendant succeeded in establishing the authenticity of the picture. It is curious to observe that the worth of a painting among dealers and so-called connoisseurs evidently depends less upon its intrinsic merits as a work of art than upon the fame of its painter. It is not the gold, but the guinea stamp that creates the value, so far as they are concerned.

A correspondent of a contemporary points out the expediency of removing the Surrey Assizes from the towns in which they are usually held (Kingston, Croydon, and Guildford) to a court near the metropolis, as, for instance, at Newington. It is well known that the majority of causes set down for trial at the Surrey Assizes are really what are termed "town cases." But in some of these the cause of action may have arisen on the Lambeth side of the Thames; in others, the venue is, for reasons easily to be understood by the legal profession, permitted to be laid in Surrey. In practice, however, the trial of a town cause at an Assize in Surrey ought to be a reproach to one or other of the attorneys engaged in it. We have known several instances in which applications have been made to Judges at chambers to change the venue in such cases, and we have never yet known one in which such application was refused. The Judges are quite as well aware as any one else can be of the infamous system of extortion which is constantly carried on under cover of the law by carrying such cases to distant assize towns, and they also are perfectly aware of the peculiar facilities afforded by the Surrey Assize for such practices. We have, at least once, already recorded, in particular, Baron Bramwell's expressed opinions on this matter.

A prize-fighter, named Napper, was brought before Mr. Yardley, charged with being about to commit a breach of the peace. It was proved that the prisoner had been announced to take part in a prize fight to come off a few days after his arrest. Instructions had been sent from Sir Richard Mayne to the officials at Scotland-yard to take Napper before a magistrate. The detective in charge of the case handed to Mr. Yardley the opinions of the two law officers of the Crown, which opinions were understood to authorise the arrest. The magistrate, however, observed that, although he was usually glad to find his own views upon legal points confirmed by such authorities, he was compelled to differ from them on the present occasion. The Act empowered constables to arrest "loose and disorderly characters about to commit a breach of the peace," but the magistrate considered the authority to extend only to immediately imminent acts, not to something advertised to occur next Tuesday week. So Mr. Napper was discharged, with a caution as to his future conduct. And if he should be advised to bring an action for false imprisonment against Sir Richard Mayne, he will stand a very fair chance of recovering compensation, unless an imprudent jury should give opportunity for revision of the verdict on the ground of excessive damages.

The pugilists King and Heenan, together with several of their seconds, appeared at Lewes on Tuesday to answer an indictment for breach of the peace, riot, and tumult. The principal offenders pleaded guilty, and were bound over in their own recognizances of £100 to appear for judgment when called upon. Travers and Mace pleaded not guilty and were discharged, as the prosecution offered no evidence against them.

A man named Logan appeared at York Assizes as plaintiff in an action against a Mr. Gordon, who had assisted in summarily ejecting him from an hotel where his stay was considered undesirable. The hotel-keeper had adopted the somewhat unusual course of getting rid of his customer in consequence of certain rumours which represented Mr. Logan's character as more nearly approaching that of a swindler than of an adventurer. Mr. Logan was consulted upon the technical ground that sufficient notice to leave the house had been given him to justify his expulsion. On his road from York, the plaintiff stole a clock belonging to a lady travelling by the train, and was very cleverly detected and given into custody by Mr. Robertson, M.P. The clock was found in Logan's bag, and on Tuesday he

was committed for trial by the magistrates at Doncaster.

Earl Dudley was summoned, and appeared before the magistrates of Worcestershire, charged with having assaulted a woman named White. For the prosecution it was alleged that White, who had been sometime separated from her husband, and had since been superintending the domestic arrangements of a Mr. Southey, whose name she had adopted, called upon the Earl on a matter of business. She was not graciously received, inasmuch as his Lordship at once seized her arm and "dragged her towards the door." The lady retaliated upon the Earl's whiskers, but was quickly put outside the door. Such was the plaintiff's case. Earl Dudley, on his part, took out a cross summons against the plaintiff for assault. The reason for this proceeding was certainly creditable, as the avowed object was to enable the Earl to verify upon oath a statement to which as defendant he could not be sworn in the first case. His statement, which was corroborated by other evidence, was that the man Southey had been a billiard-marker, and had made a claim upon the Earl for £100, said to have been won by Southey of his Lordship's brother, the Hon. Dudley Ward. This sum Lord Dudley had again and again been called on to pay, and he had as repeatedly declared that he would not liquidate such a demand. The plan of the Southneys appears to have been to worry him into a compromise, and upon "Mrs. Southey's" last call he at once ordered her out, and, as she persisted in remaining, proceeded to bundle her out. The Court unanimously adopted this view of the transaction, and the charge was dismissed.

POLICE.

BETTING CONSPIRATORS.—Since the committal of the skittle-sharpers, Powell and Finch, at the Guildhall Police Court, Mr. Alderman Lusk has received a number of letters from persons in different parts of the country complaining of having been cheated by persons of the same class. Among the letters was one from a magistrate, who stated that he had been waylaid by the London sharpers no less than five times, and that the cunning and ingenuity of their schemes are such that no one can form an adequate idea of them without having been entrapped. Another letter, from a teacher, stated that he had been imposed upon, and in his case the consequences were serious, as, after being fleeced, he found himself friendless in London, and was exposed to much misery and privation. Another correspondent states that there are numerous gangs of skittle-sharpers in London, and he censures the police for not interfering more frequently and for not cautioning victims when seen in their company. The censure is, however, undeserved, as the police have taken them frequently into custody, and they are invariably discharged, the law supplying no means of punishing them, or the magistrates refusing to send them before a jury unless they think a conviction is certain to follow. The same writer indicates the times and places where they are to be seen prowling about. On Mondays and Tuesdays, he says, they are to be seen on Holborn-hill, on Wednesdays near Temple Bar, and on Thursdays at the east end of Cannon-street and King William-street.

OUTRAGE ON A SURGEON AT LIVERPOOL.—A strange story comes to us from Liverpool. Two gentlemen, one of them a surgeon and the other a wine merchant, had been paying their addresses to the same lady. She corresponded with the surgeon, but ultimately married the wine merchant, who, in his new capacity of the lady's husband, proceeded with a friend to the surgeon's house and demanded back her letters. These were refused, on which the two friends set upon the surgeon and inflicted on him serious injuries in his own parlour. The aggressors are now in custody.

The health of Mr. Rowe is seriously affected, and the medical men attending him state that the injury to the leg causes such general irritability and restlessness as materially to aggravate the danger from congestion of the lungs. It is understood that Mr. Rowe would have given up the locket and letter demanded by Brice had proper representations been made upon the subject, but that Brice was personally unknown to him, and that he refused to restore the articles under threats of violence.

BETHNAL-GREEN AGAIN.

On Monday, at a meeting of the Bethnal-green Board of Guardians, an investigation into a charge of a serious character against Mr. Runciman, a relieving officer, took place at the request of the Poor-Law Board.

Mr. J. J. Collins said that on Tuesday the 1st of March,

he was walking up Crab-tree-row, Bethnal-green, when he heard a loud altercation between two men. A large crowd congregated. Runciman, the relieving officer, said to a man named White, "You are a common imposter and a pauper, and I would dare to take you to the police station myself." Several of the crowd said, "That's a relieving-officer." White said to Runciman, "Is this a fit place for my child to be in till Monday? Will you return again and see the place?" Runciman said, "Nothing of the sort; I shan't give you a box or anything else to bury the child in." Witness asked Runciman if he was a relieving-officer. Runciman replied, "I shall please myself about answering you, and I shall do as I like."

Ann White, otherwise Bradshaw, said that she gave birth to a stillborn child on the day before Runciman called. When he came he pushed open the door and rushed into the room. He said they had plenty of food, because he saw the two children eating three cold potatoes left since the Sunday. The witness corroborated the statement of Mr. Collins. When her husband said, "Is the dead child to lie there with five persons in the room?" Runciman said, "It shall stay there till the board meet on Monday, and after, for it shall not be buried then." Her husband had been walking about the streets the whole day hawking, and he was very tired. He was not under the influence of drink.

William White said that he took a certificate from Dr. Massingham to get a coffin from the relieving officer at Bethnal green Workhouse. Runciman said he would not "give a box to bury it," and when asked his reason, he said he was not going to answer a parcel of paupers. In the afternoon he called and acted as described by the previous witness. When the row was over, witness followed him up the street to ask him to take the dead child out of the view of its mother. Witness then said that Runciman caught hold of him roughly, and dragged him along the pavement without shoes or stockings, and he showed a hole in the flesh of his wrist which, he said, was caused by Runciman's violence. Bad language was used, but only in consequence of that violence.

Mr. Runciman said that when he entered the room a dog flew at him from under the bed. He jumped on a chair, and that was the cause of the scene. He was incapable of acting in the ungentleman-like manner described. He said, "If you are able to keep a dog you ought to be able to bury the child." He only caught hold of the man because the man tore his Inverness cape. The child was removed on Wednesday evening.

Other evidence was then adduced to the effect that there was no dog in the room, and also that on Wednesday he tore up in a passion a second letter from Dr. Massingham. Later in the day, however, he gave what was required, and was kind.

The Chairman said that the board would deliberate in private on the evidence.

The proceedings then terminated.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ALTHOUGH the supply of money for discount purposes is still nearly all £11 mrs. Securities have been in a most active state, and prices have had a cropping tendency. Consols for May, 1864, have real 9½ per cent. Ditto, for May, 9½/2d; Reduced and New Three per Cent., 9½ per cent. Ditto, for May, 9½/2d; and Bank Stock has been 9½ per cent. ex div. India Stocks, &c., have sold slowly. In the quotations, however, very little change has taken place. India Stock has marked 2½ to

Ditto, New, 10½ to 10½; the Five per Cent. Bruce Paper, 10½; and the Five-and-a-Half per Cent., 11½; the Four per Cents have sold at 9½.

The demand for accommodation at the Bank of England has been rather active. In the Open Market it has continued steady, at the names of rates for the best collateral paper:—

Thirty Days Bills	10½	per cent.
Sixty Days'	11	"
Three Months'	11½	"
Four Months'	12	"
Six Months'	12½	"

The imports of the precious metals have been on a liberal scale; but as the demand for bullion for export purposes has increased, very little gold has been sent into the bank.

A new loan for Sweden has made its appearance. It is for £15,000,000, at 6 per cent. stock at 60. This is equal to about £100,000.

The Committee for India have disposed of £100,000 in bills, at present rates. The application, within the limits, amounted to £1,000,000.

Owing to the absence of full information as regards the period when the Archduke Maximilian will proceed to Mexico, the mark for Mexican Stock is a silent one, and prices have been noted to some extent. The Contadurado 10s. is low and the quinto in Five per Cent. have marked 10d. ex div. Ditto, 1860, 9½; Ditto, 1861, 8½ ex div.; Egyptian Seven per Cent., 10½; Greek, 2½; Dito Cupona, 1½; Mexican Three per Cents, 4½ to 4½; Portuguese Three per Cents, 1½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 8½; Ditto, 1861, 9½; Spain 1½; Turkey, 2½; Tunis, 1½; Dito, 1861, 9½; Dito, 1862, 10½; Dito, 1863, 10½; Turkish Six per Cent., 1½; Ditto, 1862, 7½; Ditto, 1863, 7½; and Venezuela Six per Cents, 8½.

The market for Joint-Stock Banks has been excited, and a considerable advance has taken place in the quotation. Agra and United Service have sold at 132; Alliance, 5½; Ditto, New, 6½; Ditto, 1862, 7½; Bank of Egypt, 3½; Chartered British Columbia, 12½; Charter of India, Australia, and China, 12½; Chartered Merchant of India, London, and China, 12½; Ditto, 1862, 10½; Compania de Indias, 11½; East London, 9½; English Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 22½; Imperial, 15; Imperial Ottoman, 10; London Mortg. Co. of India, 14½; London and Brazilian, 6½; London, Bristol, and River Plate, 3½; London Joint-stock, 4½; London and Westminster, 9½; National Provincial of England, 10½; Oriental, 12½; Union in Colonial Government Securities a very moderate business has been transacted. Canada Six per Cents have realized 9½; Ditto Five per Cents, 9½; New Brunswick Six per Cents, 10½; New South Wales Five per Cents, 10½; Victoria Six per Cents, 10½ ex div.

The Miscellaneous Market has been tolerably active. Australian Mortgage Land and Finance, 4; British American Land, 5½; Ceylon, 1½; Company of African Merchants, 2; Consoloids of Discount, 8; Contract Corporation, 7½; Credit Foncier, 11½; Discount Corporation, 13½; Egyptian Commercial and Trading, 6; Electric Telegraph, 9½; Financial Corporation, 6½; General Credit, 10½; Hudson's Bay, 1½; Land Securities, 5½; London Financial, 2½; Ditto, New, 1½; Merchant Credit, 15½; Mauritius Land, Credit, and Agency, 4½; London Provincial Marine, 6½; Nova Scotian and Orkney, 8½; Societe Financiere d'Egypte, 5½ ex div.

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The market for Joint-Stock Banks has been excited, and a considerable advance has taken place in the quotation. Agra and United Service have sold at 132; Alliance, 5½; Ditto, New, 6½; Ditto, 1862, 7½; Bank of Egypt, 3½; Chartered British Columbia, 12½; Charter of India, Australia, and China, 12½; Chartered Merchant of India, London, and China, 12½; Ditto, 1862, 10½; Compania de Indias, 11½; East London, 9½; English Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 22½; Imperial, 15; Imperial Ottoman, 10; London Mortg. Co. of India, 14½; London and Brazilian, 6½; London, Bristol, and River Plate, 3½; London Joint-stock, 4½; London and Westminster, 9½; National Provincial of England, 10½; Oriental, 12½; Union in Colonial Government Securities a very moderate business has been transacted. Canada Six per Cents have realized 9½; Ditto Five per Cents, 9½; New Brunswick Six per Cents, 10½; New South Wales Five per Cents, 10½; Victoria Six per Cents, 10½ ex div.

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